FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

[VOL. XLI.] FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, DECEMBER 14, 1857. [NO. 2115]

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EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

At $2 00 per annum, if paid in advance; $2 50 if paid during the year of subscription; or $3 00 after the year has expired.

Price for the Semi-Weekly OBSERVER $3 00 if paid in advance; $3 50 if paid during the year of subscription; or $4 00 after the year has expired.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 10, 1857.

CONGRESS.

At noon on Monday, 49 Senators appeared in their seats. Vice President Breckinridge being absent, Mr. Fitzpatrick of Alabama was elected President *pro tem.*

The Senate held a short executive session, confirming the nomination of Geo. W. Bowman, Esq., Editor of the Bedford (Penn.) *Gazette*, as Superintendent of Public Printing in place of A. G. Seaman, removed.

In the House of Representatives 221 members took seats. After being sworn, the Hon. Jas. L. Orr was elected Speaker, by 31 majority over Mr. Grow of Penn. the Black Republican candidate. The result was received with much applause. Mr. Orr returned thanks in a brief speech.

Hon. James C. Allen, of Illinois, was then elected clerk; M. W. Cluskey, Esq., of Geo., Postmaster; A. J. Glossbrenner, of Pennsylvania, Sergeant-at-Arms; and H. B. Hackney, of Virginia, Doorkeeper.

On Tuesday the President's message was read, as follows:

President's Message.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In obedience to the command of the constitution, it has now become my duty "to give to Congress information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures" as I judge to be "necessary and expedient."

But first, and above all, our thanks are due to Almighty God for the numerous benefits which He has bestowed upon this people; and our united prayers ought to ascend to Him that he would continue to bless our great republic in time to come as He has blessed it in time past. Since the adjournment of the last Congress our constituents have enjoyed an unusual degree of health. The earth has yielded her fruits abundantly, and has bountifully rewarded the toil of the husbandman. Our great staples have commanded high prices, and, until within a brief period, our manufacturing, mineral, and mechanical occupations have largely partaken of the general prosperity. We have possessed all the elements of material wealth in rich abundance, and yet, notwithstanding all these advantages, our country, in its monetary interests, is at the present moment in a deplorable condition. In the midst of unsurpassed plenty in all the productions of agriculture, and in all the elements of national wealth, we find our manufactures suspended, our public works retarded, our private enterprises of different kinds abanded, and thousands of useful laborers thrown out of employment and reduced to want. The revenue of the government, which is chiefly derived from duties on imports from abroad, has been greatly reduced, whilst the appropriations made by Congress at its last session for the current fiscal year are very large in amount.

Under these circumstances a loan may be required before the close of your present session; but this, although deeply to be regretted, would prove to be only a slight misfortune when compared with the suffering and distress prevailing among the people. With this the government cannot fail deeply to sympathize, though it may be without the power to extend relief.

It is our duty to inquire what has produced such unfortunate results, and whether their recurrence can be prevented? In all former revulsions the blame might have been fairly attributed to a variety of co-operating causes; but not so upon the present occasion. It is apparent that our existing misfortunes have proceeded solely from our extravagant and vicious system of paper currency and bank credits, exciting the people to wild speculations and gambling in stocks. These revulsions must continue to recur at successive intervals so long as the amount of the paper currency and bank loans and discount of the country shall be left to the discretion of fourteen hundred irresponsible banking institutions, which from the very law of their nature will consult the interest of their stockholders rather than the public welfare.

The framers of the Constitution, when they gave to Congress the power "to coin money and to regulate the value thereof," and prohibited the States from coining money, emitting bills of credit, or making anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts, supposed they had protected the people against the evils of an excessive and irredeemable paper currency. They are not responsible for the existing anomaly that a gov't endowed with the sovereign attribute of coining money and regulating the value thereof, should have no power to prevent others from driving this coin out of the country, and filling up the channels of circulation with paper which does not represent gold and silver.

It is one of the highest and most responsible duties of government to insure to the people a sound circulating medium, the amount of which ought to be adapted with the utmost possible wisdom and skill to the wants of internal trade and foreign exchanges. If this be either greatly above or greatly below the proper standard, the marketable value of every man's property is increased or diminished in the same proportion, and injustice to individuals as well as incalculable evils to the community, are the consequence.

Unfortunately, under the construction of the Federal Constitution, which has now prevailed too long to be changed, this important and delicate duty had been dissevered from the coining power, and virtually transferred to more than fourteen hundred State banks, acting independently of each other, and regulating their paper issues almost exclusively by a regard to the present interest of their stockholders. Exercising the sovereign power of providing a paper currency, instead of coin, for the country, the first duty which these banks owe to the public is to keep in their vaults a sufficient amount of gold and silver to insure the convertibility of their notes into coin at all times and under all circumstances. No bank ought ever to be chartered without such restrictions on its business as to secure this result. All other restrictions are comparatively vain. This is the only true touchstone, the only efficient regulator of a paper currency—the only one which can guard the public against over-issues and bank suspensions. As a collateral and eventual security it is doubtless wise, and in all cases ought to be required, that banks shall hold an amount of U. States or State securities equal to their notes in circulation, and pledged for their redemption. This, however, furnishes no adequate security against over issues. On the contrary, it may be perverted to inflate the currency. Indeed, it is possible by this means to convert all the debts of the U. S. and State Governments into bank notes, without reference to the specie required to redeem them. However valuable these securities may be in themselves, they cannot be converted into gold and silver at the moment of pressure, as our experience teaches, in sufficient time to prevent bank suspensions and the depreciation of bank notes. In England, which is to a considerable extent a paper-money country, though vastly behind our own in this respect, it was deemed advisable, anterior to the act of Parliament of 1844, which wisely separated the issue of notes from the banking department, for the Bank of England always to keep on hand gold and silver equal to one third of its combined circulation and deposits. If this proportion was no more than sufficient to secure the convertibility of its notes, with the whole of Great Britain, and to some extent the continent of Europe, as a field for its circulation, rendering it almost impossible that a sudden and immediate run to a dangerous amount should be made upon it, the same proportion would certainly be insufficient under our banking system. Each of our fourteen hundred banks has but a limited circumference for its circulation, and in the couse of a very few days the depositors and note-holders might demand from such a bank a sufficient amount in specie to compel it to suspend, even although it had coin in its vaults equal to one-third of its immediate liabilities. And yet I am not aware, with the exception of the banks of Louisiana, that any State bank throughout the Union has been required by its charter to keep this or any other proportion of gold and silver compared with the amount of its combined circulation and deposits. What has been the consequence? In a recent report made by the Treasury Department on the condition of the banks throughout the different States, according to returns dated nearest to January, 1857, the aggregate amount of actual specie in their vaults is $58,349,838, of their circulation $214,778,822, and of their deposits $230,351,352. Thus it appears that these banks in the aggregate have considerably less than one dollar in seven of gold and silver compared with their circulation and deposits. It was palpable, therefore, that the very first pressure must drive them to suspension, and deprive the people of a convertible currency, with all its disastrous consequences. It is truly wonderful that they should have so long continued to preserve their credit, when a demand for the payment of one-seventh of their immediate liabilities would have driven them into insolvency. And this is the condition of the banks, notwithstanding that four hundred millions of gold from California have flowed in upon us within the last eight years, and the tide still continues to flow. Indeed, such has been the extravagance of bank credits, that the banks now hold a considerably less amount of specie, either in proportion to their capital or to their circulation and deposites combined, than they did before the discovery of gold in California. Whilst in the year 1848 their specie in proportion to their capital was more than equal to one dollar for four and a half, in 1857 it does not amount to one dollar for every six dollars and thirty-three cents of their capital. In the year 1848 the specie was equal within a very small fraction to one dollar in five of their circulation and deposites; in 1857 it is not equal to one dollar in seven and a half of their circulation and deposites.

From this statement it is easy to account for our financial history for the last forty years. It has been a history of extravagant expansions in the business of the country, followed by ruinous contractions. At successive intervals the best and most enterprising men have been tempted to their ruin by excessive bank loans of mere paper credit, exciting them to extravagant importations of foreign goods, wild speculations, and ruinous and demoralizing stock gambling. When the crisis arrives, as arrive it must, the banks can extend no relief to the people. In a vain struggle to redeem their liabilities in specie, they are compelled to contract their loans and their issues; and at last, in the hour of distress, when their assistance is most needed, they and their debtors together sink into insolvency.

It is this paper system of extravagant expansion, raising the nominal price of every article far beyond its real value, when compared with the cost of similar articles in countries whose circulation is wisely regulated, which has prevented us from competing in our own markets with foreign manufacturers, has produced extravagant importations, and has counteracted the effect of the large incidental protection afforded to our domestic manufacturers by the present revenue tariff. But for this the branches of our manufactures composed of raw materials, the production of our own country—such as cotton, iron and woollen fabrics—would not only have acquired almost exclusive possession of the home market, but would have created for themselves a foreign market throughout the world.

Deplorable, however, as may be our present financial condition, we may yet indulge in bright hopes for the future. No other nation has ever existed which could have endured such violent expansions and contractions of paper credits without lasting injury; yet the buoyancy of youth, the energies of our population, and the spirit which never quails before difficulties, will enable us soon to recover from our present financial embarrassment, it may even occasion us speedily to forget the lesson which they have taught.

In the meantime, it is the duty of the government, by all proper means within its power, to aid in alleviating the sufferings of the people occasioned by the suspension of the banks, and to provide against a recurrence of the same calamity. Unfortunately, in either aspect of the case, it can do but little. Thanks to the independent treasury, the government has not suspended payment, as it was compelled to do by the failure of the banks in 1837. It will continue to discharge its liabilities to the people in gold and silver. Its disbursements in coin will pass into circulation, and materially assist in restoring a sound currency. From its high credit, should we be compelled to make a temporary loan, it can be effected on advantageous terms. This, however, shall, if possible, be avoided; but, if not, then the amount shall be limited to the lowest practicable sum.

I have, therefore, determined that whilst no useful government works already in progress shall be suspended, new works, not already commenced, will be postponed; if this can be done without injury to the country. Those necessary for its defence shall proceed as though there had been no crisis in our monetary affairs.

The federal government cannot do much to provide against a recurrence of existing evils. Even if unsurmountable constitutional objections did not exist against the creation of a National Bank, this would furnish no adequate preventive security. The history of the last Bank of the U. S. abundantly proves the truth of this assertion. Such a Bank could not if it would, regulate the issue and credits of fourteen hundred States Banks in such a manner as to prevent the ruinous expansions and contractions in our currency which afflicted the country throughout the existence of the late Bank, or secure us against future suspensions. In 1825 an effort was made by the Bank of England to curtail the issues of the country banks under the most favorable circumstances. The paper currency had been expanded to a ruinous extent, and the Bank put forth all its power to contract it in order to reduce the prices and restore the equilibrium of the Foreign exchanges. It accordingly commenced a system of curtailment of its loans and issues, in the vain hope that the joint stock and private Banks of the kingdom would be compelled to follow its example. It found, however, that as it contracted they expanded, and at the end of the process, to employ the language of a very high official authority, "whatever reduction of the paper circulation was effected by the Bank of England (in 1822) was more than made up by the issues of the country banks."

But a Bank of the U. S. would not, if it could, restrain the issues and loans of the State banks, because its duty as a regulator of the currency must often be in direct conflict with the immediate interest of its stockholders. If we expect one agent to restrain or control another, their interests must, at least in some degree, be antagonistic. But the directors of a bank of the U. S. would feel the same interest and the same inclination with the directors of the State banks to expand the currency, to accommodate their favorites and friends with loans, and to declare large dividends. Such has been our experience in regard to the last Bank.

After all, we must mainly rely upon the patriotism and wisdom of the States for the prevention and redress of the evil. If they will afford us a real specie basis for our paper circulation by increasing the denomination of bank notes, first to 20, and afterwards to $50; if they will require that the banks shall at all times keep on hand at least one dollar of gold and silver for every three dollars of their circulation and deposites; and if they will provide by a self-executing enactment, which nothing can arrest, that the moment they suspend they shall go into liquidation, I believe that such provisions, with a weekly publication by each bank of a statement of its condition, would go far to secure us against future suspensions of specie payments.

Congress in my opinion possess the power to pass a uniform bankrupt law applicable to all banking institutions throughout the U. S., and I strongly recommend its exercise. This would make it the irreversible organic law of each bank's existence, that a suspension of specie payments shall produce its civil death. The instinct of self-preservation would then compel it to perform its duties in such a manner as to escape the penalty and preserve its life.

The existence of banks and the circulation of bank paper are so identified with the habits of our people, that they cannot at this day be suddenly abolished without much immediate injury to the country. If we could confine them to their appropriate sphere, and prevent them from administering to the spirit of wild and reckless speculation by extravagant loans and issues, they might be continued with advantage to the public.

But this I say, after long and much reflection: if experience shall prove it to be impossible to enjoy the facilities which well regulated banks might afford, without at the same time suffering the calamities which the excesses of the banks have hitherto inflicted upon the country, it would then be far the lesser evil to deprive them altogether of the power to issue a paper currency, and confine them to the functions of banks of deposite and discount.

Our relations with foreign governments are, upon the whole, in a satisfactory condition.

The diplomatic difficulties which existed between the government of the United States and that of Great Britain at the adjournment of the last congress have been happily terminated by the appointment of a British minister to this country, who has been cordially received.

Whilst it is greatly to the interest, as I am convinced, it is the sincere desire, of the governments and people of the two countries to be on terms of intimate friendship with each other, it has been our misfortune almost always to have had some irritating, if not dangerous, outstanding question with Great Britain.

Since the origin of the government we have been employed in negotiating treaties with that power, and afterwards in discussing their true intent and meaning. In this respect, the Convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, has been the most unfortunate of all; because the two governments place directly opposite and contradictory constructions upon its first and most important article. Whilst, in the United States, we believe that this treaty would place both powers upon an exact equality by the stipulation that neither will ever "occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any dominion" over any part of Central America, it is contended by the British government that the true construction of this language has left them in the rightful possession of all that portion of Central America which was in their occupancy at the date of the treaty; in fact, that the treaty is a virtual recognition on the part of the United States of the right of Great Britain, either as owner or protector, to the whole extensive coast of Central America, sweeping round from the Rio Hondo the port and harbor of San Juan de Nicaragua, together with the adjacent Bay Islands, except the comparatively small portion of this between the Sarstoom and Cape Honduras. According to their construction, the treaty does no more than simply prohibit them from extending their possessions in Central America beyond the present limits. It is not too much to assert, that if in the U. S. the treaty had been considered susceptible of such a construction, it never would have been negotiated under the authority of the President, nor would it have received the approbation of the Senate. The universal conviction in the U. S. was, that when our gov't consented to violate this traditional and time-honored policy, and to stipulate with a foreign government never to occupy or acquire territory in the Central American portion of our own continent, the consideration for this sacrifice was that Great Britain should, in this respect at least, be placed in the same position with ourselves. Whilst we have no right to doubt the sincerity of the British gov't in their construction of the treaty, it is at the same time my deliberate conviction that this construction is in opposition both to its letter and its spirit

Under the late administration negotiations were instituted between the two gov'ts for the purpose, if possible, of removing these difficulties; and a treaty having this laudable object in view, was signed at London on the 17th Oct'r, 1856, and was submitted by the President to the Senate on the following 10th of Dec. Whether this treaty, either in its original or amended form, would have accomplished the object intended without giving birth to new and embarrassing complications between the two gov'ts, may perhaps be well questioned. Certain it is, however, it was rendered much less objectionable by the different amendments made to it by the Senate. The treaty as amended, was ratified by me on the 12th of March, 1857, and was transmitted to London for ratification by the British Gov't. That Gov't expressed its willingness to concur in all the amendments made by the Senate with the single exception of the clause relating to Ruatan and the other islands in the Bay of Honduras. The article in the original treaty, as submitted to the Senate, after reciting that these islands and their inhabitants "having been by a convention bearing date the 27th day of August, 1856, between her Britannic Majesty and the Republic of Honduras, constituted and declared a free territory, under the sovereignty of the said Republic of Honduras," stipulated that "the two contracting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect in all future time the independence and rights of the said free territory as a part of the Republic of Honduras."

Upon an examination of this convention between Great Britain and Honduras of the 27th of August, 1856, it was found that, whilst declaring the Bay Islands to be "a free territory under the sovereignty of the republic of Honduras," it deprived that republic of rights without which its sovereignty over them could scarcely be said to exist. It divided them from the remainder of Honduras, and gave to their inhabitants a separate government of their own, with legislative, executive and judicial officers, elected by themselves—It deprived the government of Honduras of the taxing power in every form, and evempted the people of the islands from the performance of military duty except for their own exclusive defence. It also prohibited that republic from erecting fortifications upon them for their protection, thus leaving them open to invasion from any quarter; and, finally, it provided "that slavery shall not at any time hereafter be permitted to exist therein."

Had Honduras ratified this convention, she would have ratified the establishment of a State substantially independent within her own limits, and a State at all times subject to British influence and control. Moreover, had the United States ratified the treaty with Great Britain in its original form, we should have been bound "to recognize and respect in all future time" these stipulations to the prejudice of Honduras. Being in direct opposition to the spirit and meaning of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty as understood in the United States, the Senate rejected the entire clause, and substituted in its stead a simple recoguition of the sovereign right of Honduras to these islands in the following language:—"The two contracting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect the islands of Ruatan, Bonaco, Utila, Barbaretta, Helena and Morat, situate in the Bay of Honduras, and off the coast of the republic of Honduras, as under the sovereignty and as part of the said republic of Honduras."

Great Britain rejected this amendment, assigning as the only reason, that the ratification of the convention of the 27th August, 1756, between her and Honduras, had not been "exchanged owing to the hesitation of that government." Had this been done, it is stated that "her Majesty's government would have had little difficulty in agreeing to the modification proposed by the Senate which then would have had in effect the same signification as the original wording." Whether this would have been the effect; whether the mere circumstance of the exchange of the ratifications of the British convention with Honduras prior in point of time to the ratification of our treaty with Great Britain would, "in effect," have had "the same signification as the original wording," and thus have nullified the amendment of the Senate, may well be doubted. It is perhaps fortunate that the question has never risen.

The British government, immediately after rejecting the treaty as amended, proposed to enter into a new treaty with the United States, similar in all respects to the treaty which they had just refused to ratify, if the United States would consent to add to the Senate's clear and unqualified recognition of the sovereignty of Honduras over the Bay Islands the following conditional stipulation:—Whenever and so soon as the republic of Honduras shall have concluded and ratified a treaty with Great Britain, by which Great Britain shall have ceded, and the republic of Honduras shall have accepted the said islands, subject to the provisions and conditions contained in such treaty."

This proposition was, of course, rejected. After the Senate had refused to recognize the British convention with Honduras of the 27th August, 1856, with full knowledge of its contents, it was impossible for me, necessarily ignorant of "the provisions and conditions" which might be contained in a future convention between the same parties to sanction them in advance.

The fact is that when two nations like Great Britain and the U. S., mutually desirous, as they are, and I trust ever may be, of maintaining the most friendly relations with each other, have unfortunately concluded a treaty which they understand in senses directly opposite, the wisest course is to abrogate such a treaty by mutual consent, and to commence anew. Had this been done promptly, all difficulties in Central America would most probably ere this have been adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties. The time spent in discussing the meaning of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty would have been devoted to this praiseworthy purpose, and the task would have been the more easily accomplished because the interest of the two countries in Central America is identical, being confined to securing safe transits over all the routes across the Isthmus.

Whilst entertaining these sentiments, I shall nevertheless not refuse to contribute to any reasonable adjustment of the Central American questions which is not practically inconsistent with the American interpretation of the treaty. Overtures for this purpose have been recently made by the British gov't in a friendly spirit, which I cordially reciprocate; but whether this renewed effort will result in success I am not yet prepared to express an opinion. A brief period will determine.

With France our ancient relations of friendship still continue to exist. The French gov't have in several recent instances which need not be enumerated, evinced a spirit of good will and kindness towards our country which I heartily reciprocate. It is, notwithstanding, much to be regretted that two nations whose productions are of such a character as to invite the most extensive exchanges and freeest commercial intercourse, should continue to enforce ancient and obsolete restrictions of trade against each other. Our commercial treaty with France is in this respect an exception from our treaties with all other commercial nations. It jealously levies discriminating duties both on tonnage and on articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the one country, when arriving in vessels belonging to the other.

More than 40 years ago, on the 3d March, 1815, Congress passed an act offering to all nations to admit their vessels laden with their national productions into the ports of the U. S. upon the same terms with our own vessels, provided they would reciprocate to us similar advantages. This act confined the reciprocity to the productions of the respective foreign nations who might enter into the proposed arrangement with the U. S. The act of May 24, 1828, removed this restriction, and offered a similar reciprocity to all such vessels without reference to the origin of their cargoes. Upon these principles, our commercial treaties and arrangements have been founded except with France; and let us hope this exception may not long exist.

Our relations with Russia remain, as they have ever been, on the most friendly footing. The present Emperor, as well as his predecessors, have never failed, when the occasion offered, to manifest their good will to our country; and their friendship has always been highly appreciated by the gov't and people of the United States.

With all other European gov'ts, except that of Spain, our relations are as peaceful as we could desire. I regret to say that no progress whatever has been made, since the adjournment of Congress, towards the settlement of any of the numerous claims of our citizens against the Spanish gov't. Besides, the outrage committed on our flag by the Spanish war-frigate Ferrolana on the high seas, off the coast of Cuba, in March, 1854, by firing into the U. S. mail steamer El Dorado, and detaining and searching her, remains unacknowledged and unredressed. The general tone and temper of the Spanish gov't towards that of the U. S. are much to be regretted. Our present Minister at Madrid has asked to be recalled; and it is my purpose to send out a new Minister to Spain, with special instructions on all questions pending between the two gov'ts, and with a determination to have them speedily and amicably adjusted, if this be possible. In the meantime, whenever our Minister urges the just claims of our citizens on the notice of the Spanish gov't, he is met with the objection that Congress have never made the appropriation recommended by President Polk in his annual message of December, 1847, "to be paid to the Spanish gov't for the purpose of distribution among the claimants in the Amistad case." A similar recommendation was made by my immediate predecessor, in his message of Dec., 1853; and entirely concurring with both in the opinion that this indemnity is justly due under the treaty with Spain of Oct. 27, 1795, I earnestly recommend such an appropriation to the favorable consideration of Congress.

A treaty of friendship and commerce was concluded at Constantinople on the 13th December 1856, between the United States and Persia, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Constantinople on the 13th June, 1857, and the treaty was proclaimed by the President on the 18th August, 1857. This treaty, it is believed, will prove beneficial to American commerce. The Shah has manifested an earnest disposition to cultivate friendly relations with our country, and has expressed a strong wish that we should be represented at Teheran by a minister plenipotentiary: and I recommend that an appropriation be made for this purpose.

Recent occurrences in China have been unfavorable to a revision of the treaty with that empire of the 3d July, 1844, with a view to the security and extension of our commerce. The 24th article of this treaty stipulated for a revision of it, in case experience should prove this to be requisite; "in which case the two governments will, at the expiration of twelve years from the date of said convention, treat amicably concerning the same, by means of suitable persons appointed to conduct such negotiations." These twelve years expired on the 3d July, 1856, but long before that period it was ascertained that important changes in the treaty were necessary; and several fruitless attempts were made by the commissioner of the U. States to effect these changes. Another effort was about to be made for the same purpose by our commissioner, in conjunction with the minister of England and France, but this was suspended by the occurrence of hostilities in the Canton river between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire. These hostilities have necessarily interrupted the trade of all nations with Canton, which is now in a state of blackade, and have occasioned a serious loss of life and property. Meanwhile the insurrection within the Empire against the existing imperial dynasty still continues, and it is difficult to anticipate what will be the result.

Under these circumstances, I have deemed it advisable to appoint a distinguished citizen of Pennsylvania envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to proceed to China, and to avail himself of any opportunities which may offer to effect changes in the existing treaty favorable to American commerce. He left the U. States for the place of his destination in July last, in the war steamer Minnesota. Special ministers to China have also been appointed by the governments of Great Britain and France.

Whilst our minister has been instructed to occupy a neutral position in reference to the existing hostilities at Canton, he will cordially co-operate with the British and French ministers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty stipulations, those just concessions to commerce which the nations of the world have a right to expect, and which China cannot long be permitted to withhold. From assurances received, I entertain no doubt that the three ministers will act in harmonious concert to obtain similar commercial treaties for each of the powers they represent.

We cannot fail to feel a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the independent republics of our own continent, as well as of the empire of Brazil.

Our difficulties with New Grenada, which a short time since, bore so threatening an aspect, are, it is to be hoped, in a fair train of settlement in a manner just and honorable to both parties.

The Isthmus of Central America, including that of Panama, is the great highway between the Atlantic and Pacific, over which a large portion of the commerce of the world is destined to pass. The U. States are more deeply interested than any other nation in preserving the freedom and security of all the communications across the isthmus. It is our duty, therefore, to take care that they shall not be interrupted either by invasions from our own country or by wars between the independent States of Central America. Under our treaty with New Grenada of the 12th December, 1846, we are bound to guaranty the neutrality of the isthmus of Panama, through which the Panama railroad passes, "as well as the rights of sovereignty and property which New Grenada has and possesses over the said Territory." This obligation is founded upon equivalents granted by the treaty to the government and people of the U. States.

Under these circumstances, I recommend to Congress the passage of an act authorizing the President, in case of necessity, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States to carry into effect this guarantee of neutrality and protection. I also recommend similar legislation for the security of any other route across the isthmus in which we may acquire an interest by treaty.

With the independent republics on this continent it is both our duty and our interest to cultivate the most friendly relations. We can never feel indifferent to their fate, and must always rejoice in their prosperity. Unfortunately, both for them and for us, our example and advice have lost much of their influence in consequence of the lawless expeditions which have been fitted out against some of them within the limits of our country. Nothing is better calculated to retard our steady material progress, or impair our character as a nation, than the toleration of such enterprises in violation of the law of nations.

It is one of the first and highest duties of any independent State, in its relations with the members of the great family of nations, to restrain its people from acts of hostile aggression against their citizens or subjects. The most eminent writers on public law do not hesitate to denounce such hostile acts as robbery and murder.

Weak and feeble States, like those of Central America, may not feel themselves able to assert and vindicate their rights. The case would be far different if expeditions were set on foot within our own territories to make private war against a powerful nation. If such expeditions were fitted out from abroad against any portion of our own country, to burn down our cities, murder and plunder our people, and usurp our government, we should call any power on earth to the strictest account for not preventing such enormities.

Ever since the administration of Gen. Washington, acts of Congress have been in force to punish severely the crime of setting on foot a military expedition within the limits of the U. States, to proceed from thence against a nation or State with which we are at peace. The present neutrality act of April 20th, 1818, is but little more than a collection of pre-existing laws. Under this act the President is empowered to employ the land and naval forces and the militia "for the purpose of preventing the carrying on of any such expedition or enterprise from the territories and jurisdiction of the U. States," and the collectors of customs are authorized and required to detain any vessel in port when there is reason to believe she is about to take part in such lawless enterprises.

When it was first rendered probable that an attempt would be made to get up another unlawful expedition against Nicaragua, the Secretary of State issued instructions to the marshals and district attorneys, which were directed by the Secretaries of War and the Navy to the appropriate army and navy officers, requiring them to be vigilant, and to use their best exertions in carrying into effect the provisions of the act of 1818. Notwithstanding these precautions, the expedition has escaped from our shores. Such enterprises can do no possible good to the country, but have already inflicted much injury both on its interests and its character. They have prevented peaceful emigration from the U. States to the States of Central America, which could not fail to prove highly beneficial to all parties concerned. In a pecuniary point of view alone, our citizens have sustained heavy losses from the seizure and closing of the transit route by the San Juan between the two oceans.

The leader of the recent expedition was arrested at New Orleans, but was discharged on giving bail for his appearance in the insufficient sum of two thousand dollars.

I commend the whole subject to the serious attention of Congress, believing that our duty and our interest, as well as our national character, require that we should adopt such measures as will be effectual in restraining our citizens from committing such outrages.

I regret to inform you that the President of Paraguay has refused to ratify the treaty between the United States and that State as amended by the Senate, the signature of which was mentioned in the message of my predecessor to Congress at the opening of its session in Dec. 1853. The reasons assigned for this refusal will appear in the correspondence herewith submitted.

It being desirable to ascertain the fitness of the river La Plata and its tributaries for navigation by steam, the U. S. steamer *Water Witch* was sent thither for that purpose in 1853. This enterprise was successfully carried on until Feb., 1855, when, whilst in the peaceful prosecution of her voyage up the Panama river, the steamer was fired upon by a Paraguayan fort. The fire was returned; but as the *Water Witch* was of small force, and not designed for offensive operations, she retired from the conflict. The pretext upon which the attack was made was a decree of the President of Paraguay of Oct., 1854, prohibiting foreign vessels-of-war from navigating the rivers of that State. As Paraguay, however, was the owner of but one bank of the river of that name, the other belonging to Corrientes, a State of the Argentine Confederation, the right of its government to expect that such a decree would be obeyed cannot be acknowledged. But the *Water Witch* was not, properly speaking, a vessel-of-war. She was a small steamer engaged in a scientific enterprise intended for the advantage of commercial States generally. Under these circumstances, I am constrained to consider the attack upon her as unjustifiable, and as calling for satisfaction from the Paraguayan government.

Citizens of the U. S., also, who were established in business in Paraguay, have had their property seized and taken from them, and have otherwise been treated by the authorities in an insulting and arbitrary manner, which requires redress.

A demand for these purposes will be made in a firm but conciliatory spirit. This will the more probably be granted if the Executive have authority to use other means in the event of a refusal. This is accordingly recommended.

Concluded on 4th Page.

COMMUNICATION.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Cumberland County Agricultural Society was held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening last, the President, Joel Williams, Esq., in the chair.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows, viz:

For President, Joel Williams, re-elected. For Vice Presidents, Col. Alex. Murchison, Farqh'd Smith, J. C. Blocker. Executive Committee, A. A. McKethan, J. W. Pearce, W. McL. McKay, Sam'l J. Hinsdale, J. A. Worth, John Kirkpatrick, Jno. C. Smith, David Murphy, Will. McMillan, H. L. Myrover, Duncan McArthur, J. P. McLean, Jas. G. Cook, John Elliot, Jas. P. Hodges, Maj. Angus Shaw, Hugh McLean, Col. Wm. Alderman, Alex. Bethune, Arch'd A. McKethan. For Secretary and Treasurer, J. P. McLean, re-elected.

The report of the Treasurer showed that the finances of the society are in a flourishing condition.

Four annual Fairs have been successfully held, and the society now regards its Fair as fully established and no longer an experiment. Our future prospects are, indeed, flattering, and we appeal to our farmers and the citizens generally to begin now to form their plans, and make their arrangements for the next Fair and make it a Fair that Cumberland County can justly feel proud of, and one that will rival any other County Fair in the State.

It is expected that the members of the Executive committee, constituting as they do, the board of Directors for the Agricultural Society, will exert themselves especially in their own neighborhoods and districts, to promote the objects of the society. We hope to see every part of our county well represented at our next Fair, and our friends of the adjoining counties are cordially invited to join with us in competition for the premiums offered for the productions of general industry.

JOEL WILLIAMS, Pres't.
JOHN P. McLEAN, Sec'y.

Town papers please copy.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

RICHMOND COUNTY, Dec'r 5, 1857.

TO E. J. HALE & SON:—*Gentlemen:*—The first exhibition of the Richmond County Agricultural Society was held at Laurel Hill on Wednesday and Thursday, the 25th and 26th ult.

The first attempt at making a display of the various articles exhibited on such occasions was very encouraging to the Society. In Floral Hall the display was, in the view of one who is probably not very conversant with such exhibitions, very impressive. The Hall was decorated in three-fourths of its dimensions by a galaxy of wrought quilts, exhibiting in their different shades all the varieties of the rainbow; and in their construction all the varieties of imitated nature. The bed-covers, worsted or cotton, occupied a similarly extended space below, which might induce a person, on contemplating the warm and well fulled blankets to insure himself against receiving any uncomfortable sensation from a winter whose range might be at or below zero. The tables which extended along the side and end of the Hall exhibited the taste, ingenuity and perseverance of female hands. The needlework, drawings, painting and coloring presented to the beholder, to say the least, a pleasing sight. In fact on a person's entering the Hall, and looking on the almost interminable line of quilts, and on the drawings on the extended table below, would imagine that the mundane representations of foliage and flowers were translated to the skies as additional decorations to the star-spangled heavens so felicitously imitated in many of the quilts.

The stock of agricultural and horticultural products was well supported: corn in the ear, wheat, potatoes (Irish and sweet), turnips, onions, &c., were well and profusely represented. The Dairy and Table condiments were tastefully and bountifully supported. The cakes, bread and butter, in their luscious appearance on the table—especially when the knife divided a very fine looking pound cake,—would make a very stoic's mouth water. The live stock was increased by accessions from South Carolina and Tennessee, some of whose equine race deserved a premium. The horned cattle, sheep and hogs were well supplied from neighboring farms. And Poultry, game, shanghai, bramah, chittagongs, turkeys, &c., were in personal keeping and appearance equal to the best. The turkey cock seemed by the side of his mate to esteem his own thunder, regardless of others; and a pair of white bramahs, was the pride of their own obesity and importance,—though unlike the Sepoys of their own native territory, are peaceable, inoffensive and even cowardly. The only novelties observed at the Fair was a sample of Wyandot corn in the ear, meal and bread: the meal had the whiteness, fineness and appearance of flour; sirup of chinese sugar cane; model of a churning machine by a neighboring young lad; and a roll or bolt of domestic fabric, tightly woven in with poplar bark filling. In fine, the exhibition of the various articles was such as to compare favorably, in the opinion of persons who had attended many such, with any in the State. The whole concluded with trotting matches.

A LOOKER ON.

Size of London.—The *Builder* endeavors to give its readers some idea of the growth of London in three hundred years, and of its present size. It says:

"When the stone in Panyer's alley was placed on its site, three centuries since, the circumference was about five miles. At present, however, to make a pedestrian expedition around the metropolis would to most persons be an undertaking of some importance, as may be seen by referring to the following particulars, which have been gathered from a recently published map: From Chiswick to Kentishtown, twelve miles; from Kentishtown to Millwall, seventeen and a half miles; from Millwall to Chiswick, twenty-eight miles; total, fifty-seven and a half miles, very near three days' journey at the rate of twenty miles a day; and it will be observed that, in the line drawn, Battersea, Clapham, Canningtown, and many other places, which even at present can be scarcely said to be separated from London, have been left out. 'As the crow would fly' across the streets and houses from the point whence we started at Chiswick to the furthest east, the distance is nearly eleven miles, and the greatest width from north to south upwards of seven miles."

American and Swiss.—We copy from the *Revue de Geneve* the following story:

"An American returning lately with his guide from the glacier of the Rhone, got into an altercation with him and struck him with his fist. The guide at first did not seem to be offended, but, arriving at the village, he requested the American to pay him thirty francs, if he did not wish to be stoned by the inhabitants. What could our Yankee do? Resistance was impossible; he would have been sacrificed. He asked the guide if he would take another such blow for thirty-five francs more. The guide willingly agreed, and the powerful Yankee struck him a stunning blow of his fist; but the mountaineer did not even frown, and the two gentlemen parted the best of friends."

M. E. CONFERENCES.—The South Carolina Conference, an account of whose session we copied from the Charlotte Democrat some days ago, made the following appointments for stations &c. in this State:

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT.—S. H. BROWNE, P. E.
Charlotte Station—E J Meynardie.
Charlotte Circuit—L M Little, J L McGregor.
Concord Circuit—John Watts.
Albemarle Circuit—J W Puett.
Wadesboro' Station—F M Kennedy.
Wadesboro' Circuit—M A McKibben, R R Pegues.
Mission—A J Cauthen.
Monroe Circuit—L Scarbrough, J W Abernathy.

SHELBY DISTRICT.—J. W. KELLY, P. E.
Shelby Circuit—E W Thompson.
Lincolnton Circuit—J S Ervin, one to be sup.
Catawba Circuit—J Parker.
Lenior Circuit—F Smith.
Morganton Circuit—C W Irvey.
John's River Mission—To be supplied.
McDowell Circuit—J S Nelson.
Rutherford Circuit—A Ervin, A R Bennick.
Albert M Shipp, Prof. University of N. C.

Next Conference to be held in Charleston, S. C.

The North Carolina Conference has been in session at Goldsborough for some days. The list of appointments has not appeared. The missionary collections for the year, as we learn from the Petersburg Express, are as follows:

Raleigh District, R. O. Burton, P. E.	$1850 98
Greensboro' Dist. Rev. N H Wilson, P. E.	1249 48
Salisbury Dis. Rev. W. Barringer, P. E.	1185 04
Danville Dist., Rev. J. P. Moore, P. E.	996 70
Washington Dis., Rev. R. J. Carson, P. E.	758 25
Newbern Dis., Rev. Ira T. Wyche, P. E.	1117 65
Wilmington Dis. Rev Mr. Nicholson, P E.	1341 06
Atlantic Dist., Rev. John Jones, P. E.	1000 00
Total,	$8509 14

"Henderson and Clarksville Circuit paid $500; Warren $325 50; Haw River $301 80; Rockingham $258; Tar River 214 74; Snow Hill $234 75; and old Roanoke $153 05.

"The collections are considered very flattering, and particularly so, in view of the financial crisis. The collections to-night at the Missionary Anniversary will swell the amount considerably."

The Conference is largely attended, Bishop Paine presiding. Rev. W. E. Pell, Secretary.

MEETING OF THE GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of North-Carolina was in session, in this City, during the present week. The representation of delegates was quite a full one; and we understand their proceedings have been marked by the utmost harmony and good feeling.

On Wednesday evening provision was made to liquidate the debt of $14,000 with which the Trustees of St. John's College have been embarrassed; and the prospect seems to be that that institution will be in operation at no distant day. It is said to be one of the finest buildings in the State, and it is most eligibly located. This debt had already been provided for by subscriptions; but being contingent, they are not now available, but will ultimately become so, when they will be applied to the college fund as an endowment.

The session was brought to a close on Thursday evening. The following are the officers elect for the ensuing year:

Alfred Martin, Wilmington, G. M.
J. T. Alexander, Lincolnton, S. G. W.
J. M. Cox, Perquimans, J. G. W.
C. W. D. Hutchings, Raleigh, G. T.
W. T. Bain, Raleigh, G. S.

The following are the officers appointed by the Grand Master:

J. W. Osborne, Charlotte, D. G. M.
W. J. Pope, Hookerton, S. G. D.
J. A. Murray, Alamance, J. G. D.
Jas. McDaniel, Fayetteville, G. C.

District Deputy Grand Masters:

1st District, R. N. Forbes, Snow Hill.
2d " W. K. Blake, Fayetteville.
3d " Joshua Roberts, Asheville.
J. T. Littlejohn, Oxford, Grand Marshal.
E. F. Watson, Alamance, G. S. B.
A. Thomas, ———, G. Pur.
N. S. Earp, Raleigh, G. Tyler.

Committee of Foreign Correspondence.

J. T. Littlejohn, Oxford, P. Custis, Newbern, and J. McDaniel, Fayetteville.

Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

P. W. Fanning, Wilmington, A. T. Jerkins, Newbern, and W. G. Hill, Raleigh.

Ral. Standard.

The University.—The Annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina was held in the Executive Office, in this City, on Monday last—present, His Excellency Gov. Bragg, President Swain, and Messrs. Charles Manly, R. M. Saunders, William Eaton, jr., John H. Bryan, Charles L. Hinton, D. W. Courts, and W. W. Holden.

The annual report of the Secretary and Treasurer, Gov. Manly, was submitted, presenting a full and satisfactory exhibit of the financial condition of the University.

A number of letters and testimonials were read, setting forth the qualifications and claims of persons who are applicants for the Professorship of Chemistry and Geology; made vacant by the death of Dr. Mitchell. But after reading these, and after some conversation on the subject, it was unanimously determined to postpone the appointment to this Professorship until Monday the 4th day of next month, when it is hoped and believed a larger number of Trustees will be in attendance.

Ral. Standard.

The Supreme Court—Will commence its Winter Term, in this City, on Wednesday, the 30th day of December. Causes will be called as follows:

Jan. 1, those from the I. Circuit.
" 4, " " V. "
" 11, " " II. "
" 18, " " III. "
" 25, " " IV. "
Feb. 1, " " VI. & VII. Circuits.

Ral. Standard.

An Eccentric Clergyman.—The Greenfield Gazette says:

"Rev. Dr. Chandler of the North Society in this town delivered an excellent discourse on the 'Times,' on Thanksgiving Day. During his discourse he asked his people to diminish his salary $100 the present year, in view of the hard times, as he said he could live upon less than he now received. His salary is $400."

"The true Christian is the best of patriots. As in other parts of his character he is conformed to the image of his Saviour, so when he beholds the Redeemer weeping over that city which was about to fill up the measure of her crimes, and be visited with swift destruction, he learns to regard his native land with particular interest. It is not, however, a mere wish for her territorial aggrandisement or commercial prosperity, but such political feeling as is connected with the religious and moral welfare of her sons. At the same time he is a member of that family whose relations are not limited by geographical boundary; and therefore, while 'his heart's desire and prayer to God is that his countrymen may be saved,' he is ready to discharge the office of a good citizen on any soil on which his foot may be cast."—*Middleton.*

THE CASH PLAN.—*Extract from a letter to the Editors.*—"I hope you will succeed in adopting the cash system with your paper, and in all of your operations.

"If we would all do this, in all our business transactions, we should not hear the cry about bank suspensions, individual suspensions, and universal distress throughout the land; the result of overtrading, and wasteful extravagance.

"Buy no more than you can pay for, and pay for it when you buy it, is the only safe and true course to pursue."

A Western Bookseller writes to the "American Publishers' Circular," on the same subject, as follows:

Eds. Publishers' Circular:

Please to imagine an humble bookseller in a Western city (yes! a city) begging and beseeching and scraping and scratching to get together money enough to pay for the books he bought in New York six months since. Imagine him, after all his effort, unable to make up the amount, and obliged to ask more time. Just at this point, comes the Publishers' Circular of 14th instant, with the proceedings of the New York Publishers and their determination henceforth to sell on "*only four months!!*" This is too bad! I've kept my temper before, and have worked without complaint, following up my customers day after day, begging and beseeching them in vain to "settle their little accounts," dodging around among the neighbors, trying without success to borrow for a few days, and twisting and turning in every way to raise the money to pay these greedy fellows in six months, and have not entirely succeeded even in that, and now they have the coolness to tell me I must hereafter pay in *four months!* I'll not stand it! I'll not sell their books! it's outrageous! I'll write to the Publishers' Circular at once and give them my views of it, flat-footed, come of it what will! To begin then:—

"How in the name of all that's mathematical, Messrs. Publishers, do you expect us to pay you in *four* months, when we have not been able to pay you in six! Answer me that, if you please! Has your printer not made a mistake in writing it *four* months? Did you not mean *eight?* Ah! that would have been a sensible move! In eight months, I think I could manage to bring things around."

Here I paused to think what to say next. Having commenced so *strong*, one would not like to fall off. From thinking a little, I began to think more, and more yet. Thought gave rise to doubt, and doubt to more thought. Suppose, (thought I,) these publishers stick to their resolutions, as they say they will do, what will be the effect on me? Having weighed the matter carefully, and brought to bear upon it the results of some experience, I have determined to go on with my proposed communication, but *on the other side!* I am disposed to try these short credits, for I believe they will be for my benefit, in the end. If the Publishers will only *stick to it*, and treat all alike, I am satisfied, and declare myself an advocate of the four months' plan. In the course of my ruminations, some things occurred to me which have brought me to this way of thinking.

A few years since, my neighbor Dobson and I were the only booksellers in this place. We were then doing a fair living business, paying for our bread and butter, and laying aside a trifle beside. We sold for cash or nearly so, and had no trouble in paying our notes, and even buying a considerable portion of our stock for cash. At least, this was the case with myself, and, I doubt not, with Dobson. One day says Dobson to me, "Did you know we were going to have another bookstore here, Hobson?" "No," said I, "is it a fact?" "So they say. Will Snooks has taken a store and gone East after a stock of books." "Will Snooks! Why the fellow has not a dollar in the world, and knows nothing whatever about the book business, or any other. Who'll trust him with books?" —— But trust him they did, as I found to my cost afterwards, and (I rejoice to add,) as those who trusted him found to *their* cost too! Snooks, it seemed, had got letters from some good-natured people who "thought he would do all he agreed to," and out came a big stock of goods. Snooks having nothing to lose, thought he might as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb, and so went on a big figure. The next thing was to sell the books. The first move was to bring down prices; then to credit Tom, Dick and Harry. Dobson and I who *had* capital and *had* something to lose, must follow suit or lose our business. We had a stirring time of it, for a while. Not that any more books were sold, but if any one wanted a book, between the three of us he managed to get it at less than cost, or on credit. The next event was Snooks' failure —— paid forty cents on the dollar in stock. Then Dobson failed—— paid fifty cents on the dollar in 6, 12, 18 and 24 months. I did not fail, but I came very near it. However things began to look more cheerful and Dobson and I began to take courage.

After a while, however, another man of the Snooks pattern finding how easy it was to get books on six months' credit or on sale from Eastern publishers, started a store. This gentleman has now gone East to try to get those amiable gentlemen the publishers to take sixty cents on the dollar on long time. Meanwhile, instead of doing a living business, I am losing money. No buying for cash with me now. Everybody wants to "open an account," which I must consent to, or lose the customer. The business is not worth doing, and unless something turns up, I intend to quit it, and put what capital I have left into something in which it will pay.

Now if the publishers will stick to this *four months'* arrangement, I have hopes that it will mend matters. In the first place, we shall say to our customers, (*shall* because we *must,*) "No more running accounts payable when convenient. We must pay for our stock nearly as soon as we get it here, and you must pay us cash. Sorry, —— but these rascally eastern publishers have cut down credits, and we can't help ourselves." This will work well, I think. Then we must sail, closer to the wind, —— order in smaller quantities, and turn our capital oftener. This will lessen bad stock. Last, not least, I have my doubts, whether the gentlemen of the Snooks pattern will undertake to do business without capital, if they have to buy their stock on *four months.*

I give in my adhesion therefore to your *four months'* plan, Messrs. Publishers; *only stick to it,* and I am willing to try it.

A Valuable Crop.—The Ohio wool-clip is estimated to exceed that of 1856 by at least three milliou pounds. The counties in the centre of that State are now as famous for their fine wool as they formerly were for their great crops of wheat. The estimated value is $6,000,000.

A man in France lately lost his nose by a railroad collision. The nose that was destroyed was rare in its ugliness—an enormous red bottle nose. A scientific surgeon, by a rhinoplastic operation, not only repaired the damage, but furnished him a better, or at least a handsomer nose than he had before. But the man regretted his original bottle nose and sued the railway company for $2,000 damages, showing a want of gratitude to science which all the faculty justly condemn!

Pensions and Pensioners.—From the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Pensions it appears that the Pension Office has added to the roll of Pensioners during the year, under all the various acts, 52 Revolutionary soldiers; 338 widows of Revolutionary soldiers; 265 half-pay widows and orphans; 291 invalid; total, 946.

The arrears due on the same at the date of issuing the pension certificate amounted to $241,046 72

The amount paid during the year by pension agents is:

To Revolutionary soldiers,	$103,981 29	
To widows of do	483,320 42	
To half-pay widows and orphans,	304,352 26	
To invalids,	469,347 92	
To privateer,	1,547 00	
		$1,362,548 89

174 Revolutionary soldiers and 738 widows of Revolutionary soldiers have died during the year. Total number of deaths of all classes of pensioners 1,451.

The whole number of pensioners on the rolls June 30, 1857, is as follows:

346 Revolutionary soldiers, yearly amount,		$320,541 85
4,702 widows of	do do	375,582 63
2,854 half-pay widows and orphans	do	270,992 45
5,266 invalid pensioners	do	468,017 57
18 privateer	do	1,252 00
13,185 Total,	do	$1,436,386 50

Public Buildings.—The latest estimated cost of the work on the Capitol extension is $5,510,153, leaving to be appropriated the sum of $1,185,153. A million will be required for the next fiscal year. On the 1st ultimo, there was a balance on hand, of former appropriations, of $594,225.

The construction of the General Post Office was originally estimated to cost $650,000. It is now said that it will cost $700,000, of which $600,000 have already been appropriated.

A further appropriation of $245,000 will complete the dome of the Capitol, the cost of which will not exceed the original estimate of $945,000.

Washington Globe.

According to statistics published by the Journal of Commerce, the imports of foreign merchandize at the port of New York, for the month of November, were $1,050,585 less than for the corresponding month of last year, $1,470,772 more than for the same period of 1855, and $4,786,118 more than for the same month of 1854. The imports of specie and bullion (exclusive of those from California) amounted to $3,027,803, which is larger than for any previous month in the history of the port. The total foreign imports at New York since January 1, are $19,879,913 greater than for the corresponding eleven months of last year, $79,084,599 greater than for the same period of 1855, and $49,365,692 greater than for the same period of 1854.

The export trade for the month was quite large, considering the difficulty of negotiating foreign exchange and the general derangement of business affairs. The total shipments from New York to foreign ports, exclusive of specie, was $972,868 less than for November, 1856, $1,954,073 less than for November, 1855, and $1,726,202 greater than for the corresponding month in 1854. The shipments of specie show a slight increase.

High Prices for Negroes.—The Yorkville Citizen reports a sale of negroes, on the 26th and 27th ult., belonging to the estate of Madison Hambright, of that district, of which the following are the particulars. The terms were twelve months credit, with interest from date:

Boy Jake, about 20 years, $1001; Ike, Blacksmith, 25 years, $1300; Girl Maria, 14 years, $1040; Girl Susan, 11 years, $728; Girl Rena, 9 years, $512; Woman Ibby, 45 years, $500; Woman Winney, 45 years, $455.

The Citizen says these prices exceeded the appraisement by several hundred dollars.

To this we might add the notice of the Savannah Republican, of a sale of negroes that took place in Warrenton, Ga., on Tuesday last. Young and likely negro men brought from $1200 to $1500. A young woman about eighteen years of age brought $1500. The sale was made on a credit of twelve months, and the purchases made by parties not interested in the property.

There has been a decided fall in real estate in New York. An instance is given as illustrative of the tendency of things. The Independent says that Mr. Ely has sold his store adjoining the Metropolitan Bank, and formerly occupied by Messrs. Bowen, McNamee & Co., to the New York Life Insurance Company for $100,000. The bank had previously purchased the rear of the property, paying about $46,000 therefor. The price paid to Bowen, McNamee & Co., by Mr. Ely, a short time since, for the whole property, was $200,000.

A few days ago we heard a singular account of a Western merchant. It seems he had been but a few years in business, and upon taking an account of stock found that his profits had been, as his ledger showed, some $60,000; in other words, that his indebtedness was $20,000 and his assets $80,000. Wishing to replenish, and elated by his great success, he went to New York, represented his great skill, and on the strength of it bought some $70,000 worth of goods on credit and returned home. A few weeks after he was back again in New York, proposing to compromise for forty cents on the dollar. "How is this?" said his astonished creditor; "a short time ago you were worth $60,000." "Why," said he, "the fact is, my book-keeper *made a mistake.* I was *owing* $80,000, and *had* only $20,000 assets." The "phelinks" of those creditors can better be imagined than described.—*Mississippi paper.*

The Treasury of Virginia is in a similar fix. The Charlottesville Jeffersonian learns that by a miscalculation of the auditor, there will be a deficit in the Virginia State treasury of $400,000. In estimating the wants of the State he omitted $200,000 for the James River and Kanawha Company, which the State had guarantied to pay, and also omitted to make provision for the sinking fund. He estimated the amount on hand at the end of the present year to be $500,000 when it is only $37,000.

As a specimen of the cheap rate at which human life is held on the Western waters, we quote the following brief announcement of the death of an unknown man at Cairo:—

"A man, name unknown, fell overboard from the Southerner, while she was laying at the landing, last Sunday morning, and was drowned. It is said he rose once, but some one (accidentally, we presume,) let fall a chunk of wood upon his head and he rose no more.—*Cairo Delta.*

The block of granite used in the base of the Worth monument weighs 61,500 pounds. It was quarried out in one piece at Quincy, (Massachustts,) from a piece estimated to weigh one hundred tons.

A Brisk Business.—At a corn husking frolic "down east" lately, two hundred bushels of golden yellow corn were husked, forty-eight girls kissed, one couple married, and seven more "engaged," all in one evening. Talk of stagnation in business.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.—A friend who has carefully examined the volume of "Mortality Statistics of the 7th Census of the United States, 1850," published by order of Congress in 1855, has been struck with some facts showing the comparative mortality of the States of New York, Virginia and North Carolina. At our request he has put them on paper for the Observer, as follows:

FROM THE MORTALITY STATISTICS OF THE CENSUS OF 1850.

In the State of North Carolina there were living in 1850, 249 persons over 100 years.
In the State of Virginia 389.
In the State of New York there were only 88.

The aggregate population of New York is to that of North Carolina as 3.56 is to 1, or about 3½ times greater.

In N. Carolina one person in every 200 37 lives to be over 80 years of age.
In New York one person in every 233 65.
In Virginia one in every 197.17.

The Deaths in the State of New York in 1850 were 45,600, of which only 16 were over 100 years.
In North Carolina, 10,165, of which 45 were over 100 years.
In Virginia, 19,059, of which 75 were over 100.
The deaths in New York were nearly 4½ times greater than in North Carolina,—the population only 3½ times greater.
In the State of New York most persons died in the Autumn.
In North Carolina in the Spring.
In Virginia in the Summer.

In the State of New York most persons died after an illness of under one week.
In North Carolina, over one week and under one month.
In Virginia, under one week.

Among the slaves of North Carolina there was one death to every 68.26 slaves.
Among the free blacks of New York one death to every 60.87 persons.
Among the whites of North Carolina, there was one death to every 98.07 persons.
In New York, one to every 68.05.
In Virginia, one to every 90.41.
In North Carolina, there was one death by consumption to every 1546.33.
In New York, one to every 462.91.
Or, the deaths by consumption were nearly 12 times greater in New York than in North Carolina, its population being only 3½ times greater.
In the city of New York, there was one death to every 44.99 of the whole population.
In Philadelphia, one to every 58.56.
In Baltimore, one to every 59.21.
In Richmond, one to every 56.05.

In North Carolina more deaths were from dropsy than any other disease.
Pneumonia ranked next in number of deaths.
Disease of the lungs caused more than all kinds of fevers, (open houses cause of?)
Scarlet fever caused only 21 deaths; whereas in New York there were 1028 from scarlet fever.

ALCOHOL AS A MEDICINE.

PHYSICIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.

WOLFE'S CELEBRATED

SCHIEDAM AROMATIC SCHNAPPS,

A Medicinal Diet Drink, of eminently salutary qualities, manufactured by himself exclusively, at his factory at Schiedam, in Holland.

It is made from the best Barley that can be selected in Europe, with the essence of an aromatic Italian berry of acknowledged and extraordinary medicinal properties. It has long since acquired a higher reputation, both in Europe and America, than any other diuretic beverage.

In Gravel, Gout, and Rheumatism, in Obstructions of the Bladder and Kidneys, and in general Debility, its effects are prompt, decided, and invariably reliable. And it is not only a remedy for these maladies, but, in all cases in which they are produced by drinking bad water, which is almost universally the cause of them, it operates as a *sure preventive.*

The distressing effect upon the stomach, bowels and bladder, of travelers or new residents, and all persons unaccustomed to them, produced by the waters of nearly all our great inland rivers, like the Ohio, Mississippi, and Alabama, from the large quantity of decayed vegetable matter contained in them, in a state of solution, is well known, as also that of the waters of limestone regions in producing Gravel, Calculi, and Stone in the Bladder. The AROMATIC SCHIEDAM SCHNAPPS is an absolute corrective of these injurious properties of bad water, and consequently prevents the diseases which they occasion. It is also found to be a cure and preventive of Fever and Ague, a complaint caused by the conjoint effect of vegetable malaria in the atmosphere, and vegetable putrescences in the waters of those districts in which it principally prevails. The AROMATIC SCHIEDAM SCHNAPPS is consequently in great demand by persons traveling, or about to settle in those parts of the country, especially, as well as by many in every community where it has become known, on account of its various other remedial properties.

In all cases of a Dropsical tendency, it is generally the only remedy required, when adopted in the early stages of the disease. In Dyspepsia maladies, when taken in proper quantities, as a diet drink, and especially at dinner, it is found, by uniform experience, to be eminently efficacious in the most obstinate cases, when even the best of the usual remedies have failed to afford more than temporary relief. In cases of Flatulency, it is an immediate and invariable specific; and it may be administered in diluted and proportionate quantities, even to young infants, in all those paroxysms of griping pain in the stomach and bowels to which they are especially subject, as well as in the colic of grown persons.

Its judicious adoption in connection with the principal meals, or when a sense of exhaustion dictates its use, never fails to relieve the debility attendant upon protracted chronic maladies, low temperament, and exhausted vital energy, by whatever cause induced. These are facts to which many of the most eminent medical men both in Europe and the United States, have borne testimony, and which are corroborated by their highest written authorities.

Put up in quart and pint bottles, in cases of one dozen each, with my name on the bottle, cork, and *fac-simile* of my signature on the label. For sale by all the respectable Druggists and Grocers in the United States.

UDOLPHO WOLFE, Sole Importer,
22 Beaver Street, New York.

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.

The word *Schiedam Schnapps*, belongs exclusively to my medicinal beverage, all others is counterfeit and imposition on the public. UDOLPHO WOLFE.

Nov. 25, 1857. 63-3mi

YEAST POWDERS;
Chocolate;
Saltpetre;
Pure Potash;
Toilet Soap;
For sale by S. J. HINSDALE.
Dec'r 7. 66-

TRUST SALE.

BY virtue of a Deed made by John W. Weisiger to the subscriber, I will sell at the Market House in Fayetteville, on the 14th January 1858, the HOUSE and LOT formerly occupied by the said J. W. Weisiger, joining G. W. McDonald and others, containing seven and one-fourth acres.

Terms of sale: $350 cash, balance six months credit for satisfactory note payable at bank.

JAS. G. COOK, Trustee.
Dec'r 8, 1857. 67-

6,500 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber desiring to move to the West offers to sell the following tracts of valuable land.

1 Tract containing 2566 acres in Harnett County 18 miles North of Fayetteville. There is on this tract, two large and comfortable dwelling houses, with all necessary outhouses, together with a good mill running two saws and grist, with about 300 acres cleared and in a high state of cultivation; the remainder is excellent farming and turpentine land.

Also another tract containing 4000 acres of turpentine land, about 100 acres of which is cleared. There is on this tract one good dwelling with all necessary out houses and a good grist and saw-mill.

I will take pleasure in showing the above property to any person wishing to purchase.

H. S. McNEILL.
Manchester P. O.
Nov. 7th, 1857. 67-ts

THE LITTLE SHOE.

I found it here!—a worn-out shoe,
All mildewed with time and wet with dew.
'Tis a little thing: ye would pass it by
With never a thought, or word, or sigh;
Yet it stirs in my heart a hidden well,
And in eloquence of the past doth tell.

It tells of a form that is cold and still—
Of a little mound upon yonder hill,
That is dearer far to a mother's heart
Than the classic statues of Grecian art;
Ah! strangers may pass with a careless air;
Nor dream of the hopes that lie buried there.

'Oh, ye who have ne'er o'er a loved one wept—
Whose brightest hopes have ne'er been swept
Like the pure white cloud from the summer sky—
Like the wreath of mist from the mountain high—
Like a rainbow, beaming a moment here,
Then melting away to its native sphere—

Like rose leaves, loosed by the zephyr's sigh
Like that zephyr wafting its perfume by—
Like the wave that kisses some graceful spot
That passes away, yet is ne'er forgot;
If like these your life hopes have never fled,
Ye cannot know of the tears I shed.

Ye cannot know what a little thing
From memory's silent fount can bring,
The voice and form that were once so dear;
Yet there are hearts, were they only here,
That could feel with me, when, all wet with dew,
I found it this morning—this little shoe.

YEAST POWDERS
FOR sale by
S. J. HINSDALE.

EDWARDS
ON
BILLS AND PROMISSORY NOTES,
PRICE, $5 50.
A TREATISE ON
BILLS OF EXCHANGE,
AND
PROMISSORY NOTES,
BY
ISAAC EDWARDS.
Counsellor at Law.
Just Published and For Sale by
BANKS, GOULD & CO.,
144 Nassau street, N. Y.
Also for sale by E. J. HALE & SON.
64-12tc

NEW FIRM & NEW GOODS!
At Pekin, Montgomery Co., N. C.

BROOKSHIRE & COX are now receiving from New York an entirely

New Stock of Goods,

Consisting of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Hollow-ware, Boots and Shoes, Leather, Saddlery, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, and Ready-made Clothing; in fact everything necessary to a good assortment and called for in the country trade. Our goods were selected with care in the Northern market and bought for cash, and we can afford to sell them as cheap as they can be obtained elsewhere.

We invite calls from our neighbors and the public generally, as we wish to show our Stock, and promise to give our customers good bargains.

W. F. BROOKSHIRE. ABEL COX.
Sept'r 21. 44-83m

VALUABLE TURPENTINE LANDS FOR SALE.

BY virtue of a Decree of Harnett Court of Equity, made upon the petition of Hannah Worth, D. G. Worth, and the heirs of John McNeill, dec'd, I shall sell at auction, at the residence of D. G. Worth, on the 28th day of December next, the lands belonging to the petitioners, on the waters of Barbecue, Gum Swamp, Cypress and Juniper Creeks, containing about

6400 Acres.

About half the land has been boxed and worked for a short time for turpentine. Upwards of 3,000 acres has had no boxes cut, and the Western Rail Road, now being built, runs through the unboxed portion. No Timber has been cut off any portion of it.

It has on it a good Dwelling, Store House, a small Farm, Meadow, Negro Houses, Cooper Shops, two Turpentine Stills, and other buildings necessary for turpentine making.

D. G. Worth, residing on the premises, will show the property to any one wishing to examine it before the sale.

A credit of 12 months will be given, with interest from sale, the purchaser giving bond with good personal security; and the title will be reserved until the purchase money is paid.

C. H. COFIELD, Clerk and Master.
Nov. 26. 64*ts

LAND AND MILLS FOR SALE.

BY virtue of two Deeds of Trust, executed to me by James Price, for purposes therein specified, I will sell to the highest bidder, on Saturday, the 9th Jan., 1858, that valuable place known as LUMBER BRIDGE, in Robeson County, containing 400 acres of Land.

There is a comfortable Dwelling House and all necessary out-houses, with about 75 Acres of cleared Land under good fence and in a high state of cultivation. It is as healthy as any place in the county, with 2 wells of good water, a first rate GRIST MILL and COTTON GIN—all new and in good credit. Also, a large and commodious Store House, well arranged and in a good business stand.

Also, at the same time and place I will sell 2 head of Horses, one Wagon, one Buggy and Harness, 100 bushels CORN, 700 lbs. Fodder and Hay, 30 Head Hogs, 7 Head of Cattle, household and kitchen furniture, and Blacksmith's tools.

Terms made known at Sale.

DANIEL McNATT, Trus.
Dec. 5th 1857. 66-*ts

$500 Reward.

RANAWAY from the subscriber, about the middle of June last, a negro man by the name of SIMON. The said negro is about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, of a dark complexion, and has a young appearance; is upwards of thirty years of age; weighing 130 or 140 lbs. Has a very small foot. Reads very well for a negro, keep accounts, and is very intelligent. A scar on one of his knees, from a cut of an axe, which sometimes makes him limp. About 35 years of age. Said negro is very cunning and artful, and may attempt to pass himself as a free negro. According to the best information I can get I am led to believe said negro is lurking in Richmond Co., and on Big Rockfish in Robeson.

I will give twenty-five dollars for the apprehension of the said boy in any Jail in the State; I will give one hundred dollars reward for proof sufficient to convict any person in a Court of Justice for harboring said negro; or five hundred dollars for proof to convict any person of decoying him off. Any information concerning said negro will be thankfully received.

JOHN FAIRLEY.
Montpelier P. O., Richmond Co., N. C. 70*tf

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ANSON COUNTY.
Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1857.

Asa Little, Adm'r of Rachel Little, vs. William P. Little and others.
Petition for Settlement.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Jesse Little and James B. Lee and wife Hannah, the defendants, are not inhabitants of this State, on motion it is ordered that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer for six weeks successively, notifying the defendants to appear at the next Term of this Court to be held for the County of Anson at the Court House in Wadesborough on the second Monday in January next, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, or judgment pro confesso will be entered against them, and the petition heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, Patrick J. Coppedge, Clerk of said Court at office in Wadesborough, the second Monday of October 1857.

62-*6w] P. J. COPPEDGE, Clerk.

BLANKS, for sale here.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 14. 1857.

☞ *From and after January 1, 1858, no name of a new subscriber will be entered on our subscription books without payment in advance, and the paper will be discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for. The same rule will be adopted with such of our present subscribers as request it.*

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We printed this long document in a hurry on Thursday, having it all in type and printed in about six hours after its receipt. Being anxious to get it off by the first mails, we did not stop to read and correct the proofs, and there were consequently some errors in the print, but none of importance. They are corrected in the Weekly paper of to-day.

In general, the Message is a good one. With its views of our foreign relations; of fillibusterism; of the duty of the country in respect to that foul blot, Utah; of the Pacific railroad; of the Public Lands; of economy; of hasty [and corrupt] legislation; and of some minor subjects, we are happy to concur.

In regard to Kansas, we fully concur in his remark, that "Kansas has for some years occupied too much of the public attention." So thinking for some time past, we have not devoted sufficient time to the investigation of the present phase of its difficulties, to make up an opinion whether the President's views, or those of Douglas and Walker, are right. The democrats are divided upon it, and for the present we are content that they shall have a fair field to fight it out among themselves.

On the currency question, we are far from concurring with the President. We do not believe that the banks are the "sole" cause, or even material cause, of the late panic, but that on the contrary they are its victims. We do not believe that they are "insolvent" because they suspended specie payments. We do not believe that that suspension under the circumstances was a wrong done to the public, but a necessity for the preservation of the public from still greater loss and ruin. We do not believe that the prohibition of small notes will remedy the inherent defects of the banking system—defects which will be found in any system which the wit or the ignorance of man may devise. We do not believe that it is "bank expansions," but rather unwise tariffs, that have produced "extravagant importations."

It may seem to the democracy very well to talk about prohibiting the circulation of bank notes under $50—(the Bank of England itself issues £5 notes;)—to require banks to keep one dollar in specie for every three dollars of issues *and* deposites; and to provide that the moment they suspend they shall be declared bankrupt and go into liquidation. All this may tickle the ears of a party which is really in favor of a mixed currency, but sometimes pretends to go for one exclusively of hard money. But with such restrictions, who, out of the large commercial cities, would put their money in banks? What would become of that bank paper circulation with which, as the President himself admits, the habits of our people are so identified that it "cannot be suddenly abolished without much immediate injury to the country?" We have seen in our own State, a charter rejected with far less of restriction than all that amounts to. And if the President's views were to be enacted into laws in the various States, there would be no new applications for charters, (except in the large commercial cities,) and the people might prepare themselves to meet the "much immediate injury" which would result from a hard money system. If that is to be the policy of the country, the sooner the people begin to prepare for it, by getting out of debt and incurring no new obligations, to be paid when money will be twice as dear and hard to get as now, the better for them all.

MR. MCRAE'S LETTER.—The Newbern Union says:

"As opposition to Distribution has always been one of the cardinal principles of Democracy, Mr. McRae, by the publication of this letter, has virtually declared himself an apostate from the party with which he has heretofore acted."

As it is not a matter of the slightest moment to us whether Mr. McRae is, or is considered, a Democrat or an opponent of Democrats, we shall not dispute the Union's right to pronounce judgment against him. We desire merely to correct an error into which it has fallen.

Mr. McRae, if acknowledged to be a Democrat before the publication of this letter—as he undoubtedly was—has *not* by its publication "virtually declared himself an apostate." His views on the land question are no new thing. Four years ago he advanced precisely the same opinions, and maintained them upon the stump throughout this District, to the utter discomfiture of the opposing candidate for Congress. So far from being considered "an apostate" in consequence, his course met with the marked approbation of his party. He was denounced, neither in this State, nor elsewhere. On the contrary, whilst canvassing this District on that issue, and that issue alone, he was summoned from the field by the authorised and acknowledged exponents of Democratic doctrines to fill an honorable position in his country's service, as a reward for his faithful zeal in the service of his party. Surely President Pierce, Secretaries Marcy, Dobbin, Davis, Campbell; Cushing, and McLelland did not select "an apostate" to represent the country abroad?

It is proper to state here that Mr. McRae has published a card in the Raleigh Standard correcting the statement in his letter that Mr. McDowell of Bladen voted with his party in favor of the land resolutions before the Legislature in 1852–'53. Mr. McDowell voted against the resolutions. The mistake occurred in consequence of Mr. McRae's having written whilst away from home, without the Journals.

SPECIE GOING.—The Atlantic sailed for Liverpool on Saturday last with nearly $1,800,000 in gold. And the Arabia with $1,500,000.

A CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR.—In accordance with its request, we give place to the following letter from Col. Walter F. Leak, of Richmond County:—

ROCKINGHAM, Dec'r 6, 1857.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Son:—GENTLEMEN:—You are authorised and requested to announce myself as a Democratic candidate for Governor at the ensuing Gubernatorial election.

My views upon the public land question are too well understood to require any comment at the present. At the proper time they will not be withheld. Respectfully,

Your most ob't,
W. F. LEAK.

P. S. A similar letter is sent to each of the town papers. W. F. L.

AWFUL OCCURRENCE.—This community was greatly shocked, on Friday morning last, by information that the dead bodies of Mr. William F. Wightman and Mr. Moses S. Elliott were found on the bed of the latter in his room at the Shemwell House where he was boarding. They left a letter stating their determination to commit suicide by taking poison, and the two empty glasses were found on the table by their side. The circumstances indicate that the act was done some 18 or 20 hours before the discovery of the bodies. The verdict of the Coroner's Jury we understand was in accordance with the above facts. They were from South Carolina and Georgia, and had resided here for a year or two past.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Col. Turnbull, of the Topographical Engineers, U. S. A., was found dead in his bed at the Carolina Hotel, Wilmington, on Thursday morning last. He had been afflicted with disease of the heart, of which he no doubt died whilst asleep, as his features and person were perfectly calm and composed. He had served with Gen. Scott in Mexico, and stood high in the army and in Wilmington, where he was engaged superintending the government works in the harbor. He was upwards of 60 years of age, and leaves a large family.

LAUREL HILL FAIR.—Agricultural Fairs are all the rage of late, and we heartily wish that they may long continue so to be; for they not only excite emulation and lead to improvement in agriculture, stock, and housewifery, (fully as important as the others to comfortable living,) but they bring people together under most agreeable circumstances, making and perpetuating acquaintances and friendships. It is with pleasure therefore that we publish the account of the Laurel Hill Fair, in addition to the various others which we have noticed this Fall.

We have received a very acceptable token from the Laurel Hill Fair, in a moiety of the Premium Cake. made by Mrs. Milton McIntosh. It is very good, fully justifying the award made in its favor; and we return our thanks to the donor for the kindly remembrance.

We are indebted to Hon. Warren Winslow for copies of the President's Message very kindly forwarded early enough to have reached us on Thursday morning, in time for the Observer of that day. Though marked to be sent, one package via Warsaw and the other via Raleigh, in hopes that one could reach us, both came to hand by the Raleigh route a day after we had published that message. They had probably (as much of the mail matter sent by that route does) traveled up the N. C. Road towards Charlotte and then back again.

GOV. WISE'S MESSAGES.—The "diarrhœa of words," with which the Governor of Virginia is afflicted, is the source of much amusement among his constituents. There was some consternation at first, it is true, at the idea of a Governor dividing his Annual Message into three volumes, like one of James's novels, but that feeling soon gave way to one of merriment, since nobody is obliged to read the work, and therefore nobody will read it. Even the Clerk of the Virginia Senate, whose duty it was to read it, broke down after about an hour's hard work, and had to give it up in despair. The proof readers in the printing offices are also obliged to read it, but there they spell each other, and the effort need not prove fatal to any of them. The Virginia Editors have the worst time of it. They have the heavy expense of printing it, and are calling loudly for an appropriation to compensate them. The tressury is unfortunately empty, or they might get it.

FROM THE UTAH EXPEDITION.—The latest accounts from the troops left them at a point 150 miles west of Fort Laramie on the 3d of November. Provisions were getting scarce, the provender giving out, and it is now apparent that great hardships were before them. Still, notwithstanding the threats received from Salt Lake City, the entire army would proceed to the winter quarters on the Honey Forks of Green river.

It was rumored that Brigham Young intends to fight the troops this winter as the best chance for an equal conflict, and then, before reinforcements can arrive in the spring, to destroy all the possessions in Utah and proceed to some other country.

Hon. R. M. T. Hunter has been re-elected U. S. Senator from Virginia. There was no opposing candidate, and Mr. Hunter's election was almost unanimous.

N. C. BONDS.—We note sales of considerable quantities in New York at 87.

North Carolina bank notes are quoted at 3½ to 4 per cent. discount in Baltimore.

SUPREME COURT.—The U. S. Supreme Court commenced its winter session at Washington City on Monday last, all the Judges present.

Hon. Nathan Clifford, of Maine, has been nominated to the Senate by the President, for the vacancy occasioned by Judge Curtis's resignation.

The President has dismissed the U. S. District Attorney at New Orleans for want of diligence to prevent the sailing of Walker's last fillibustering expedition.

Dividend.—The Merchants Bank of Newbern has declared a dividend of 3 1-2 per cent. on the profits of the last six months.

Fire in Hillsboro'.—We learn from passengers on the cars that reached here Thursday evening, that a destructive fire was raging in Hillsboro' as the train passed that village. Howerton's Hotel and several other buildings were burning.

Raleigh Standard.

CONGRESS.

In the SENATE, on Tuesday, after the reading of the President's Message, Mr. Douglas briefly expressed his satisfaction with the views contained in the Message, with the exception of that part relating to Kansas, from which he felt compelled to dissent; and when the proper time arrived he said that he should give his views at large on the subject.

Mr. Stuart also characterized the message as marked by unusual ability and power, but said that he could not coincide with that portion of it which related to Kansas.

Other points in the message were commented on by a number of Senators, and pending a motion to print the Senate adjourned.

On Wednesday, the Kansas debate was continued at great length and with warmth, by Messrs. Douglas, Bigler, Seward and others.

Mr. Douglas spoke at great length, declaring the President's views radically and fundamentally wrong, and exposing many most important errors in the Message. The course recommended by the President, he declared, violated the principle of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, nullified the democratic platform, and if persisted in would split the party. Mr. Buchanan, he said, had been elected under the belief that he stood upon the platform, and if it had been supposed that he held such views as he presents in his message, he would have been defeated, and every man who supported him would have been defeated. Mr. Douglas was loudly applauded by the immense audience in attendance.

On Thursday, Mr. Douglas gave notice of a bill to enable the people of Kansas to form a Constitution and State Government, preparatory to their admission into the Union.

Mr. Reid gave notice of his intention on some early day to introduce a bill making an appropriation for completing the harbor and removing obstructions at the mouth of Cape Fear River.

In Executive session, Mr. Denver was confirmed as Secretary of State and Acting Governor of Kansas, in place of Stanton, removed for calling a special meeting of the Territorial Legislature since Gov. Walker left Kansas, contrary to instructions and for the apparent purpose of renewing the strife in that territory. The removal of Gov. Walker is also expected to take place.

Mr. Richardson was confirmed as Governor of Nebraska.

In the House of Representatives, on Tuesday, after reading the message, a long discussion grew out of a statement made by Mr. Clemmons of Va. that he had been approached with an offer of a "consideration" if he would vote for Wendell for printer, or abstain from voting against him. Wendell denied any knowledge of the matter, and nothing came of the discussion.

After a long debate on the election of a Chaplain, the House passed a resolution to invite the Clergy of the District to officiate alternately, without pay, according to their own suggestion. Both Houses have thus adopted this mode of having prayer.

On Wednesday, after ineffectual struggles to prevent the election of a Printer, and to investigate the corruption in that department of the House expenses, Charles B. Steadman of Ohio was elected to that lucrative office, by 121 votes to 89 for Western, Black Republican, and 4 scattering.

Both Houses adjourned from Thursday to Monday.

All the members from this State, 7 Democrats and 1 American, Mr. Gilmer, voted for Mr. Orr for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MARRIED,

In Union county, on the 1st inst., by E. W. Liles, Esq., Mr. JOHN C. SIKES to Miss JANE, only daughter of C. Austin, Sheriff of Union County.

In Union county, on the 3d inst, by E. W. Liles, Esq., Mr. S. H. MULLIS to Miss ELLEN ANN MANESS, daughter of Thomas Maness,—all of Union. Argus copy.

DIED,

In Richmond county, Nov. 8th, JAMES STANLY HINES, aged 14 years and 2 months. Also, on Nov. 25, JOSEPH MANNING HINES, aged 17 years, 11 months and 12 days. Also, on Dec'r 3d, SARAH JANE HINES, aged 16 years, 9 months and 12 days. All children of Capt. Joseph and Sarah C. Hines. Com.

Argus copy.

In Moore county, on the 23d Nov last, Mr. ARCHIBALD McPHERSON, aged 84 years. He was a native of Scotland, and removed to America in the year 1802. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland, and remained a consistent member of that church in Moore county, until his death. Com.

In Cumberland Co., Nov'r —, Mrs. CATHARINE McDUFFIE, aged about 65 years, wife of John McDuffie, Esq.

In Lexington, Virginia, on 25th Nov. Mrs. MARY SLOAN, widow of John Sloan, deceased, in the 74th year of her age.

In New York, on the 2d inst., of paralysis, Mr. RICHMOND WHITMARSH, a wealthy and respected merchant of that city, formerly of the firm of Lazarus & Whitmarsh, of Wilmington, N. C., where he resided for 15 years. He was a native of Providence, R I., and was 61 years of age when he died.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—December 14.

BACON—	17 a	LARD,—	20 a 00
COTTON—		MOLASSES—	
Fair to good,	10 a 10½	Cuba	35 a 00
Ordin. to mid.	9 a 00	N. Orleans,	00 a 00
COTTON BAGGING—		SALT—	
Gunny,	20 a 00	Liv. Sack,	1 25 a 00 0
Dundee,	18 a 00	FLAXSEED	1 10 a 0 00
FLOUR—		N. C. SPIRITS—	
Family,	5 25 a 0 00	P. Brandy,	1 25 a 00
Super.	5 00 a 0 00	Apple do,	1 00 a 00
Fine,	4 75 a 0 00	Whiskey,	90 a 00
Scratched,	4 50 a 0 00	WOOL—	00 a 00
GRAIN—		TURPENTINE—	
Corn,	0 70 a 0 75	Yellow dip,	1 85 a 0 00
Wheat,	1 00 a 0 00	Virgin,	1 95 a 0 00
Oats,	50 a 0	Hard,	0 90 a 0 00
Peas,	1 00 a 0 00	Spirits,	34 a 00
Rye,	1 00 a 0 00		

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Cotton—We again have to reduce quotations, although the article is lower now than it was some weeks ago when we urged farmers to sell. We still say sell. We have seen Cotton sell at 4 to 6 cents; what has been may be again. The present price is remunerative to the farmer. There is another thing that I would like for farmers to look at, that is storing. There is Cotton stored here now that 15½ cts. was refused for, and, within a few weeks, 12½. When it gets back to that price they will take it. I would like to see what it would have amounted to if they had sold and loaned out the money at simple interest.

Flour—No change.

Corn—In demand.

Peas—Wanted, and find ready sale.

Rags—Mr. D. Murphy has given notice that he intends stopping his paper mill, consequently he will want no more rags. The price will, therefore, have to come down to shipping prices, which will probably be 2½ cents.

Corrected by JAMES G. COOK.

WILMINGTON MARKET.

Virgin and yellow Turpentine 2 35, hard 1 35. Spirits 38. No 2 Rosin 1 10; common $1.

At New York, Southern Flour lower; $5 to 6 80. Southern Wheat 1 20 to 1 45 Cotton heavy and unsettled; middling uplands 11. Spirits 40.

At Cheraw, for the week ending on the 8th inst., the Herald reports sales of 266 bales of cotton at 10 to 10½. Planters, it says, bring in their crops slowly. Flour 5 12½ to 5 50; supply small.

At Charleston, cotton 9⅞ to 10¾.

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS OF THE N. C. M. E. CONFERENCE

RALEIGH DISTRICT—R. O. BURTON, P. E.

Raleigh Station—L N Hendron.
do City Mission—Gaston Farrow and R T Heflin.
do Col'd Charge—Jas Reid.
do Circuit—T S Campbell.
Henderson and Clarksville Circuit—John Pillett.
Granville—John W Floyd.
Person—P W Archer.
Hillsboro' Circuit—H Gray.
Warren do —R G Barrett and P H Joyner, sup.
Roanoke do —H T Hudson and T W Moore.
do Col'd Mission—P W Yarrell.
Chapel Hill—A W Mangum
Eno Mission—To be supplied.
Raleigh Female Seminary—D R Bruton.
R T Heflin—Editor N C Advocate.

GREENSBORO' DISTRICT—N. H. D. WILSON, P. E.

Greensboro' Station—L S Burkhead.
Guilford Circuit—Jno M Gunn.
Uwhara do —Wm C Gannon.
Normal College—C M Anderson.
Montgomery—John S Davis.
Deep River—N A Hooker.
Rockingham—Peter Doub and George W Heppinstall
Haw River—R P Bibb.
do Mission—To be supplied.
Franklinsville—Jos C Thomas.
Alamance—Alex Gattis.
Wentworth—A Norman
Baxter Craven—President of Normal College.
Wm Barringer—Agent of Greensboro' Female College

SALISBURY DISTRICT—N. F. REID, P. E.

Salisbury Station—R S Moran.
Rowan—M C Thomas.
East Rowan—J F Keerns.
Mocksville—S H Helsebeck, T B Reeks, sup.
Iredell—Wm Carter, W W Albea, sup.
Alexander—W B Richardson.
South Iredell—Thos L Triplett.
Wilkes—Jas F Smoot.
Surry—M L Wood.
Forsythe—L Rush.
Winston—Jas H Wheeler.
Davidson—S D Adams.
Blue Ridge Mission—E Moore.
Fisher River do—To be supplied.
Little do do—Do do.
Jonesville—J W Avant.

DANVILLE DISTRICT—J. P. MOORE, P. E.

Danville Station—J L Fisher.
Yanceyville Circuit—J W Lewis.
Leasburg—Jas P Simpson.
Halifax—W W Jordan, C W King.
Do Col'd Mission—To be supplied.
Stanton—D C Johnson.
Pittsylvania—J D Halstead.
Franklin—B M Williams.
Alleghany Col'd Mission—B B Shelton.
Patrick—C M Pepper.
Stokes—J B Alford.
Henry—C H Phillips.
Hillsborough—Jas B Bobbitt.
Jas Jamieson, President of Danville Female College.

WASHINGTON DISTRICT—R. J. CARSON, P. E.

Washington Station—T P Ricaud.
Tar River Circuit—Lemon Shell.
Nash Circuit—S D Peeler.
Columbia—W D Mecham.
Mattamuskeet—W M D Moore.
Plymouth—T W Guthrie.
Williamston—H H Gibbons.
Bath—S Robertson.
Neuse—Jas B Bailey.
Neuse Mission—N A H Goddin.

NEW BERNE DISTRICT—IRA T WYCHE, P. E.

Newbern Centenary—A Waver.
Do Col'd Mission—W M Walsh.
Do Circuit—Geo E Wyche.
Snow Hill—D W Doub.
Wilson Station—J W Tucker.
Goldsborough Station—John S Long.
Kinston Circuit—B F Long.
Tarborough Circuit—Wm Closs.
Everittsville—C P Jones.
Smithfield—Wm E Pell.
Duplin—J A Cunningham.
Onslow—J J Hines.
Trent—J H Hill.
Beaufort, Ann Street—Jos H Wheeler.
Purvis Chapel—To be supplied.
Contentnea Mission—J Johnson
S M Frost, President of Wayne Female College.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT—D. B. NICHOLSON, P. E.

Wilmington, Front Street Church—Chas F Deems.
Sailor Bethel—John N Andrews.
Fifth Street—Jas E Mann.
Topsail Circuit—Williamson Harriss.
New Hanover and Onslow Mission—J H Jefferson.
Sampson Circuit—M J Hunt and A D Betts
Bladen—Daniel Culbreth.
Buckhorn Mission—W S Chafin.
Fayetteville—W H Bobbitt.
Do Evans' Chapel—Jos B Martin.
Do Circuit—To be supplied.
Robeson Circuit—P J Carraway.
Whitesville—O J Brent.
Smithville—W F Clegg.
Cape Fear Mission—M N Taylor.

ATLANTIC DISTRICT—JOHN JONES, P. E.

Portsmouth and Ocracoke—To be supplied.
Cape Lookout—John Jones.
Cape Hatteras—John L Newby.
Straits—Jos Wheeler.

Next Conference to be held at New Berne.
Delegates to the next General Conference:—D B Nicholson, C F Deems, R T Heflin, Wm Closs, Wm Barringer, N H D Wilson, Peter Doub, N F Reid.
Reserves:—Ira T Wyche, C P Jones.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

ARRIVALS.

C F Line. Dec'r 11, Str Flora, with goods for J M Worth & Son, E F Moore, R Jones, Murchison, Reid & Co, A A McKethan, Brown & Waid, H Erambert, R S French, G W Williams & Co, J Ottarburg, D & W McLaurin, Worth & Utley.

PORT OF WILMINGTON.

ARRIVALS.

Dec'r 8.—Schr D C Hulse fm Savannah, N M Tanner fm Baltimore. 9.—Brig M B Davis from Savannah, Schr W A Ellis fm New York. 10.—Brig S P Brown fm Havana. 11.—Schr L Warren fm Perquimons. 12. Schr W H Howard fm Sloop Point.

ONCE MORE TO THE BREACH!

ROCKINGHAM ACADEMY.

DANIEL W. JOHNSON, PRINCIPAL.
JOHN M. JOHNSON, ASSISTANT.
ROCKINGHAM, N. C.

THE Exercises of this School will be resumed on Monday, January 11th, 1858. While the Teachers return their thanks for the very liberal patronage which has been extended to them, their unexpected success during the past session enables them to say that hereafter the school will be select. They sue for scholars no longer. None need come—none shall continue who do not wish, who are not determined to become first rate scholars. We again call attention to the fact that there is a flourishing Female School in the village, thus affording the rare opportunity of sending sons and daughters to the same place. The well known health of Rockingham makes it unnecessary to say anything upon that subject.

Board in private families, or at the Hotels, from $8 to $10 per month.

Tuition per session of twenty weeks, for
primary English, $10.00
Intermediate, 12.00
Latin, Greek, French and higher Mathematics, 17.50

Dec. 7, 1857. 68-4t

ORDER NO. 22.

Attention! La Fayette Light Infantry.

YOU are ordered to attend Civil Meeting and Drill this (MONDAY) Evening, at 7 o'clock, at Armory. And on Monday Evening next, 21st inst., at 7 o'clock, attend Civil Meeting and Court Martial.

By order of Capt. Cook,
P. CROW, O. S.
Dec'r 14. 68-

20 NEGROES TO HIRE.

THE Subscriber will, on Saturday, the 2d day of January next, at the family residence 8 miles north of Fayetteville, hire out for one year, the NEGROES belonging to the Estate of C. Hargrove, dec'd. They consist of Men, Women and Children, among them are good Turpentine and farm hands, and house servants. Approved bonds will be required of persons hiring before the negroes are delivered.

Terms fully made known on the day of hiring.
JOHN P. McLEAN, Guardian.
Dec. 14, 1857. 68*tH

Mt. Vernon Seminary.

THE fifth Session of the Male Department of this Institution will open on the 2d Monday in January, 1858.

Terms as heretofore—varying from $5 to $15; $1 for incidental expenses. One half payable in advance, and if payment is delayed, interest will be charged in all cases.

Arrangements are making to furnish greater accommodations for Board within a short distance of the Academy. Board at $8 per month. It is very important for all to be present at the opening of the Session, though pupils will be admitted during the Session, and charged from time of entrance to the *close*. No deductions made unless in cases of protracted illness.

The Trustees seem determined to assist in offering to the public an Institution worthy of united patronage

For particulars address
R. P. JONES, Principal
Goldston, N. C., Dec. 14, 1857. 68*5t

HAYWOOD FEMALE INSTITUTE.

THE Second Session will commence the 11th January next, under the supervision of Mr. P. C. Shaw and Lady, whom we also take pleasure in recommending to parents generally—satisfied as we are, from the results of last session, that they are successful and thorough teachers, and certainly merit a liberal patronage for their enterprise in building up a school of so high moral and intellectual character. And we can assure those who have daughters to educate, that their moral and intellectual training will be as faithfully and strictly attended to, as at any similar institution in the country. The regular rates of tuition are 10, 12½ and 15 dollars, per session, according to the advancement of the pupil. Extras, French, Drawing and Painting in water colors, 5 dollars each. Monochromatic painting 10 dollars. Music on the Piano, including the use of intrument 20 dollars. Latin and Greek at the usual prices. Fifty cents per scholar will be added for contingencies. Pupils will be charged from the time of entering to the end of session. No deduction will be made except in cases of protracted sickness. For any information relative to board, parents are referred to Messrs. P. C. Shaw, B. I. Howze or J. W. Scott.

B. I. HOWZE.	ELIAS BRYAN.
J. S. LASATER.	RICH'N FAUCETT.
W. HOGAN JONES.	R. K. SMITH.
JOSEPH AVANT.	JNO. W. SCOTT.

Dec. 11, 1857. 68-*4t

Standard will please copy 4t and forward account to this office.

HAYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL.

THE next Session of this Institution will commence on the 2d Monday in January, 1858. A. R. BLACK, A. M., being Principal.

We take pleasure in stating to the patrons and public generally, that out of 60 Students in both Schools last session, there was not a single case of fever, or any sickness of a local character, and the same may be said of all the families residing in Haywood.

Persons wishing to patronize the School are assured that besides the mental training, the morals of their sons will be as safe here as at any other school: for we feel no hesitation in saying that this community in point of morality and intelligence, will compare favorably with any other; and believe that in proportion to wealth, there is none less extravagant.

Board and Tuition as heretofore.—for particulars of which apply to Elias Bryan or A. R. Black.

RICHARDSON FAUCETT,	J. S. LASSITER,
JOSEPH AVANT,	R. K. SMITH,
ELIAS BRYAN,	B. I. HOWZE,
W. H. JONES,	J. W. SCOTT.

Haywood, Dec'r 5, 1857. 68-4*w

BUFFALO Male and Female School.

THE Exercises of this Institution will be resumed on TUESDAY the 5TH JANUARY next.

The attention of parents and guardians is respectfully solicited to this School, as it is the aim of the teachers to afford the best facilities to those pupils entrusted to their care for the attainment of a complete and thorough school education, as well as general improvement.

Ample provision has been made for the accommodation of at least fifty students within one and a half miles of the School Rooms.

Six or eight young ladies can obtain board in the family of the Principal.

Tuition per Session of five months, viz:

English, according to advancement, $7 50, $10 and $12 50; Latin, Greek and higher Mathematics $15.

EXTRA IN FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

Music on Piano with use of instrument, $20 00
French, Drawing, Painting and Needlework, each 5 00
Board from $7 to $8 per month.

Students will be charged from the time of entering.

D. McINTYRE, } Principals.
Mrs. D. McINTYRE, }
Buffalo, Moore Co., N. C., Dec. 8. 68*3t

Carthage Institute.

THE next Session will commence on the second Monday in January.

The location of the School is unusually healthy, in the midst of a moral and intelligent community. The course of instruction, it is hoped, is sufficiently ample and thorough, embracing all the studies preparatory to the University and other Colleges in the State, and also such other branches as those not expecting to take a classical course may prefer. Whilst a high degree of mental culture is our chief aim, the moral and physical development of the Students shall not be neglected.

TERMS:

Elementary English,	$8 00
Higher English and Arithmetic,	12 50
Languages and higher Mathematics,	17 50
Contingencies per Scholar,	50

Students will be charged from time of entering to the end of the Session. No deduction made for absence except from sickness or other unavoidable cause.

Board, including lights, fuel, washing, &c., can be had in the best families in the village and vicinity at from $7 to $9 per month.

CLEMENT DOWD, A. B., Principal.
Dec. 12, 1857. 68*4t
Argus, Carolinian and Clinton Independent copy 4t.

NOTICE.

THE Subscribers having, at November Term, 1857 of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Sampson County, taken Letters of Administration on the estate of Mrs. Mary J. Williams, deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having claims against the estate of the deceased, to present the same, duly authenticated, within the time prescribed by law, otherwise this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

Debtors to the said estate will please to make immediate payment.

M. R. WILLIAMS, Administratrix.
W. DRAUGHON, Administrator.
November 18, 1857.

FURTHER NOTICE.

ON Wednesday the 6th January 1858, the subscribers will sell, at Clinton, all the HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN FURNITURE belonging to the estate of the late Mrs. Mary J. Williams.

Also, at the Plantation, 23 miles above Clinton, on Thursday and Friday the 7th and 8th January, will be sold, all the Stock, consisting of 50 to 60 fat Hogs, 75 to 100 stock Hogs, 40 to 50 head of Cattle, 30 to 40 head of Sheep, 4 Mules, Carriage and Horses, about 1000 bushels of Corn, and a Large lot of Forage. Also, all of the Household and Kitchen Furniture, Farming utensils, &c.,

And on the 8th, will be hired for 12 months, about 60 Negroes, among whom are first rate turpentine hands, good cooks, wagon drivers, &c.

The above sales will be made on the usual terms.

M. R. WILLIAMS, Administratrix.
W. DRAUGHON, Administrator.
Dec. 8, 1857. 67-sw1t*ts

FOR RENT,

THE Subscriber, as Guardian of the infant children of the late Mrs. Mary J. Williams, dec'd, will, on Wednesday the 6th January, 1858, rent out for one year, the Dwelling House in Clinton, lately occupied by the deceased, together with the land adjoining.

And on Friday the 8th, on the premises, will rent out for the same period, the Plantation, 23 miles above Clinton, belonging to the estate of the late Mrs. Mary J. Williams; and also the "Cox Place," adjoining the same.

W. DRAUGHGON, Guardian.
Dec. 8, 1857. 67sw1t*tt

A REMEDY FOR DYSPEPSIA.

BŒRHAVE'S HOLLAND BITTERS is now the most simple, delightful and effectual remedy for dyspepsia, before the public. Many of our most worthy citizens testify to its efficacy. To persons subject to nervous, and sick headache, it is a valuable medicine.

Dec. 11. 68-2tpd

NOTICE! NOTICE!!

THAT my Store will be open as usual for trading until Jan'y 1, 1858, after which I shall adopt the cash system, and paying customers only will be admitted. And at that time, the old unpleasant mode of dunning will pass away, and I will resort to more reliable means for collecting accounts and notes due me.

W. C. TROY.
Dec'r 14. 68-2t

NEGROES FOR HIRE.

I HAVE several Negroes for hire for the next year, consisting of men, women, boys and girls. Apply soon to E. J. LILLY.
Dec'r 14. 68*3t

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.

ON Monday, January 4, 1858, at the late residence of Alex McAlister in this County, I will sell

23 NEGROES,

among them four men, three boys, seven women, two girls, and seven children.

Also the crop of corn, fodder and hay. A quantity of pork. Four mules, three horses, cows and calves, sows and pigs. One carriage, two road wagons, one raft of timber, Household and Kitchen Furniture, &c., &c.

Also a Library of Miscellaneous Books.

The sale will commence on Monday and continue until all is sold.

Terms, 6 months credit. Bond and approved security required.

NEILL McDUGALD, Adm'r.
Kyle's Landing, Cumberland Co., Dec. 11, 1857. 68-*ts

NOTICE.

AT December Term 1857, of Cumberland county Court, the subscriber qualified as administrator of the Goods and Chattels, rights and credits, of the late Sarah Leach. All persons indebted to her are notified to make payment. Those holding claims must present them in due time or this notice will be pleaded in bar of a recovery.

ALEXANDER LEACH.

FURTHER NOTICE.

ON the 31st day of this month, at the residence of Mrs. Mary Leach, in Cumberland county, I will sell on six months credit, the Perishable Property belonging to the late Sarah Leach.

ALEXANDER LEACH, Administrator.
Dec'r 11, 1857. 68*6t

NOTICE.

I WILL hire to the highest bidder, at the late residence of Duncan McLean, dec'd, on the 1st day of January 1858, all the NEGROES belonging to said Estate, for the term of Twelve months; hirers to give bond with approved security.

JAMES S. HARRINGTON, Adm'r.
Dec. 10, 1857. 68-*3t

FOUND!

A LADY'S BREAST PIN, which the owner may find by calling at this Office and paying for this advertisement.

Dec'r 12. 68-

NOTICE.

HAVING determined to remove to the West, I will, on the 29th inst., expose to public sale,

THE PLANTATION

on which I now reside, lying on the Road from Lumberton to Fair Bluff. The land is in good fix, with good new frame buildings on it, and contains about Two Hundred Acres. There is on the tract a good piece of low land, remarkably fine for the cultivation of Corn, and can be easily drained. Persons wishing to purchase will do well to call and examine the premises, as I am bound to sell at some price.

JOHN PREVATT.
Lumberton, Dec'r 10. 68-*2t

NOTICE.

THE subscriber lost a small PORTE MONAIE on Saturday the 28th ult., between the Toll House at Murchison's Factory and Andrew Crow's, containing One Hundred and Sixty Dollars in money; one Note on H. C. McLean for Twenty-six and 25-100 dollars, made payable to the subscriber; one on Andrew Crow for Ninety-three and 45-100 dollars, made payable to R. E Rives, and endorsed over to me; and other papers not recollected. Any person finding said money and notes will be LIBERALLY REWARDED by leaving the same at this Office, or addressing me at Long Street, Moore County. THOS. J. MINTER.
Nov'r 30. 68*4t

STOCK OF GOODS FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber, desirous of devoting more of his time and attention to his Farm, offers for sale his STOCK of GOODS, at Mary's Garden, and will Rent or Lease the Store House for one year or for a term of years. It is a good stand for business, and to any person applying soon liberal terms will be offered. I will continue to purchase and distill Turpentine as heretofore.

G. W. LAWRENCE.

N. B.—All those indebted to me, either by Note or Account, are requested to settle by Jan'y 1st, 1858.

G. W. LAWRENCE.
Mary's Garden, Dec. 10, 1857. 67-3tpd

TEAS.

FRESH GREEN and BLACK TEAS for sale by
S. J. HINSDALE.

PAINTS, OILS AND VARNISH.

A FRESH supply received by
S. J. HINSDALE.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to us either by Note, or Account, are earnestly requested to call and pay up, by the 1st of January.

After the 15th of January, we intend to resort to more reliable means than dunning for the collection of amounts due us.

D. & W. McLAURIN.
Dec. 10, 1857. 67-

CLERK AND MASTER'S OFFICE,

RANDOLPH COUNTY, N. C.

WHEREAS, Jonathan Worth, administrator de bonis non, with the will annexed, of John McNeill, Senior, and as administrator of John McNeill, jr, has filed in this office his bill of complaint against Jennet McNeill, R. E. Harris and wife Janet Ann, Martin McNeill, John McLean, Henry Atkins and wife Flora, and Sarah Shaw, for a construction of the testator's will and for a final settlement of his estate, and it appearing to me by affidavit that the said Atkins and wife, and Sarah Shaw are not inhabitants of this State: Therefore, Notice is hereby given to said non resident defendants to appear at the next Court of Equity to be held for said County, at the Court House in Asheborough, on the 4th Monday of March, 1858, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said bill, otherwise the same will be taken as confessed, and the Court will make such decree therein as may seem just

Witness, J. Worth, Clerk and Master of said Court, at office in Asheborough, this 8th December, 1857.
68*6t] J. WORTH, C. M. E.

CLERK AND MASTER'S OFFICE,

RANDOLPH COUNTY, N. C.

WHEREAS, Jesse Marley has filed in the Office of the Clerk and Master in Equity for Randolph County, his bill of complaint against John Marley, Thomas Marley, the heirs at law of Patsey Teague, the heirs at law of Rachel Marley, the heirs at law of Polly Branson and Elizabeth Underwood, Polly Siler, John Stewart, Elizabeth McDaniel, Frankey Beck, Nancey Allridge, Rebecca McDaniel, and Sophia Wood, praying for a construction of the Will of Miriam P. Alston, and an account and settlement of the plaintiff's administration of her will as her testator; and it appearing to me that all the defendants (excepting John and Thomas Marley,) are non residents of this State, therefore, Notice is hereby given to said non resident defendants to appear at the next Court of Equity, to be held for said County at the Court House in Asheborough, on the 4th Monday of March, 1858, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said bill, otherwise the same may be taken as confessed, and heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, J. Worth, Clerk and Master of said Court, at Asheborough, this 8th Dec'r, 1857.
68*6t] J. WORTH, C. M. E.

K. M. MURCHISON, COMMISSION MERCHANT,

NO. 104 WALL STREET,
New York.

☞ Usual advances on Consignments. 50-itf

It is unnecessary to state in detail the alarming condition of the Territory of Kansas at the time of my inauguration. The opposing parties then stood in hostile array against each other, and any accident might have relighted the flame of civil war. Besides, at this critical moment, Kansas was left without a governor by the resignation of Governor Geary.

On the 19th of Feb'y previous, the territorial legislature had passed a law providing for the election of delegates on the third Monday of June to a convention to meet on the first Monday of Sept'r, for the purpose of framing a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. This law was in the main fair and just; and it is to be regretted that all the qualified electors had not registered themselves and voted under its provisions.

At the time of the election for delegates, an extensive organization existed in the Territory, whose avowed object it was, if need be, to put down the lawful government by force, and to establish a government of their own under the so-called Topeka constitution. The persons attached to this revolutionary organization abstained from taking any part in the election.

The act of the territorial legislature had omitted to provide for submitting to the people the constitution which might be framed by the convention; and in the excited state of public feeling throughout Kansas, an apprehension extensively prevailed that a design existed to force upon them a constitution in relation to slavery against their will. In this emergency it became my duty, as it was my unquestionable right, having in view the union of all good citizens in support of the territorial laws, to express an opinion on the true construction of the provisions concerning slavery contained in the organic act of Congress of the 30th May 1854. Congress declared it to be "the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way." Under it Kansas, "when admitted as a State," was to "be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission."

Did Congress mean by this language that the delegates elected to frame a constitution should have authority finally to decide the question of slavery, or did they intend by leaving it to the people that the people of Kansas themselves should decide this question by a direct vote? On this subject, I confess I had never entertained a serious doubt, and, therefore, in my instructions to Gov. Walker on the 28th March last, I merely said that when "a constitution shall be submitted to the people of the Territory, they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against that instrument, and the fair expression of the popular will must not be interrupted by fraud or violence."

In expressing this opinion, it was far from my intention to interfere with the decision of the people of Kansas either for or against slavery. From this I have always carefully abstained. Intrusted with the duty of taking "care that the laws be faithfully executed," my only desire was that the people of Kansas should furnish to Congress the evidence required by the organic act, whether for or against slavery; and in this manner smooth their passage into the Union. In emerging from the condition of territorial dependence into that of a sovereign State, it was their duty, in my opinion, to make known their will by the votes of the majority, on the direct question whether this important domestic institution should or should not continue to exist. Indeed, this was the only possible mode in which their will could be authentically ascertained.

The election of delegates to a convention must necessarily take place in separate districts. From this cause it may readily happen, as has often been the case, that a majority of the people of a State or Territory are on one side of a question, whilst a majority of the representatives from the several districts into which it is divided may be upon the other side. This arises from the fact that in some districts delegates may be elected by small majorities, whilst in others those of different sentiments may receive majorities sufficiently great not only to overcome the votes given for the former, but to leave a large majority of the whole people in direct opposition to a majority of the delegates. Besides, our history proves that influences may be brought to bear on the representative sufficiently powerful to induce him to disregard the will of his constituents. The truth is, that no other authentic and satisfactory mode exists of ascertaining the will of a majority of the people of any State or Territory on an important and exciting question like that of slavery in Kansas, except by leaving it to a direct vote. How wise, then, was it for Congress to pass over all subordinate and intermediate agencies, and proceed directly to the source of all legitimate power under our institutions!

How vain would any other principle prove in practice! This may be illustrated by the case of Kansas. Should she be admitted into the Union, with a constitution either maintaining or abolishing slavery against the sentiment of the people, this could have no other effect than to continue and to exasperate the existing agitation during the brief period required to make the constitution conform to the irresistible will of the majority.

The friends and supporters of the Nebraska and Kansas act, when struggling on a recent occasion to sustain its wise provisions before the great tribunal of the American people, never differed about its true meaning on this subject. Everywhere throughout the Union they publicly pledged their faith and honor, that they would cheerfully submit the question of slavery to the decision of the bona fide people of Kansas, without any restriction or qualification whatever. All were cordially united upon the great doctrine of popular sovereignty, which is the vital principle of our free institutions. Had it then been insinuated from any quarter, that it would be a sufficient compliance with the requisitions of the organic law for the members of a convention, thereafter to be elected, to withhold the question of slavery from the people, and to substitute their own will for that of a legally-ascertained majority of all their constituents, this would have been instantly rejected. Every where they remained true to the resolution adopted on a celebrated occasion recognising "the right of the people of all the territories, including Nebraska and Kansas—acting through the legally and fairly-expressed will of a majority of actual residents, and whenever the number of their inhabitants justifies it, to form a constitution, with or without slavery, and be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States."

The convention to frame a constitution for Kansas met on the 1st Monday of Sep'r last. They were called together by virtue of an act of the territorial legislature, whose lawful existence had been recognised by Congress in different forms and by different enactments. A large proportion of the citizens of Kansas did not think proper to register their names to vote at the election for delegates; but an opportunity to do this having been fairly afforded, their refusal to avail themselves of their right could in no manner affect the legality of the convention.

This convention proceeded to frame a constitution for Kansas, and finally adjourned to the 7th of Nov'r. But little difficulty occurred in the convention, except on the subject of slavery. The truth is that the general provisions of our recent State constitutions are so similar—and, I may add, so excellent—that the difference between them is not essential. Under the earlier practice of the gov't, no constitution framed by the convention of a territory preparatory to its admission into the Union as a State had been submitted to the people. I trust, however, the example set by the last Congress, requiring that the constitution of Minnesota "should be subject to the approval and ratification of the people of the proposed State," may be followed on future occasions. I took it for granted that the convention of Kansas would act in accordance with this example, founded, as it is, on correct principles; and hence my instructions to Gov. Walker, in favor of submitting the constitution to the people, were expressed in general and unqualified terms.

In the Kansas-Nebraska act, however, this requirement, as applicable to the whole constitution, had not been inserted, and the convention were not bound by its terms to submit any other portion of the instrument to an election, except that which relates to the "domestic institution" of slavery. This will be rendered clear by a simple reference to its language. It was "not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way." According to the plain construction of the sentence, the words "domestic institutions" have a direct as they have an appropriate reference to slavery. "Domestic institutions" are limited to the family. The relation between master and slave and a few others are "domestic institutions," of a political character. Besides, there was no question then before Congress, nor indeed has there since been any serious question before the people of Kansas or the country, except that which relates to the "domestic institution" of slavery.

The convention, after an angry and excited debate, finally determined, by a majority of only two, to submit the question of slavery to the people, though at the last forty-three of the fifty delegates present affixed their signatures to the constitution.

A large majority of the convention were in favor of establishing slavery in Kansas. They accordingly inserted an article in the constitution for this purpose similar in form to those which had been adopted by other territorial conventions. In the schedule, however, providing for the transition from a territorial to a State government, the question has been fairly and explicitly referred to the people, whether they will have a constitution "with or without slavery." It declares that, before the constitution adopted by the convention "shall be sent to Congress for admission into the Union as a State," an election shall be held to decide this question, at which all the white male inhabitants of the Territory above the age of 21 are entitled to vote. They are to vote by ballot; and "the ballots cast at such election shall be endorsed "constitution with slavery,' and 'constitution with no slavery.'" If there be a majority in favor of the "constitution with slavery," then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in its original form. If, on the contrary, there shall be a majority in favor of the 'constitution with no slavery,' "then the article providing for slavery shall be stricken from the constitution by the president of the convention;" and it is expressly declared that no "slavery shall exist in the State of Kansas, except that the right of property in slaves now in the Territory shall in no manner be interfered with;" and in that event it is made his duty to have the constitution thus ratified transmitted to the Congress of the United States for the admission of the State into the Union.

At this election every citizen will have an opportunity of expressing his opinion by his vote, "whether Kansas shall be received into the Union with or without slavery," and thus this exciting question may be peacefully settled in the very mode required by the organic law. The election will be held under legitimate authority, and if any portion of the inhabitants shall refuse to vote, a fair opportunity to do so having been presented, this will be their own voluntary act, and they alone will be responsible for the consequences.

Whether Kansas shall be a free or a slave State must eventually, under some authority, be decided by an election; and the question can never be more clearly or distinctly presented to the people than it is at the present moment. Should this opportunity be rejected, she may be involved for years in domestic discord, and possibly in civil war, before she can again make up the issue now so fortunately tendered, and again reach the point she has already attained.

Kansas has for some years occupied too much of the public attention. It is high time this should be directed to far more important objects. When once admitted into the Union, whether with or without slavery, the excitement beyond her own limits will speedily pass away, and she will then for the first time be left, as she ought to have been long since, to manage her own affairs in her own way. If her constitution on the subject of slavery, or on any other subject, be displeasing to a majority of the people, no human power can prevent them from changing it within a brief period. Under these circumstances, it may well be questioned whether the peace and quiet of the whole country are not of greater importance than the mere temporary triumph of either of the political parties in Kansas.

Should the constitution without slavery be adopted by the votes of the majority, the rights of property in slaves now in the Territory are reserved. The number of these is very small; but if it were greater the provision would be equally just and reasonable. These slaves were brought into the Territory under the constitution of the U. S., and are now the property of their masters. This point has at length been finally decided by the highest judicial tribunal of the country—and this upon the plain principle that when a confederacy of sovereign States acquire a new territory at their joint expense, both equality and justice demand that the citizens of one and all of them shall have the right to take into it whatsoever is recognised as property by the common constitution. To have summarily confiscated the property in slaves already in the Territory, would have been an act of gross injustice, and contrary to the practice of the older States of the Union which have abolished slavery.

A territorial government was established for Utah by act of Congress approved the 9th Sept., 1850, and the constitution and laws of the U. S. were thereby extended over it "so far as the same, or any provision thereof, may be applicable." This act provided for the appointment by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of a governor, who was to be ex-officio superintendent of Indian affairs, a secretary, three judges of the supreme court, a marshal, and a district attorney. Subsequent acts provided for the appointment of the officers necessary to extend our land and our Indian system over the territory. Brigham Young was appointed the first governor on the 20th Sept., 1850, and has held the office ever since. Whilst Gov. Young has been both the governor and superintendent of Indian affairs throughout this period, he has been at the same time the head of the church called Latter-Day Saints, and professes to govern its members and dispose of their property by direct inspiration and authority from the Almighty. His power has been, therefore, absolute over both Church and State.

The people of Utah, almost exclusively, belong to this church and believing with a fanatical spirit that he is governor of the territory by divine appointment, they obey his commands as if they were direct revelations from Heaven. If, therefore, he chooses that his gov't shall come into collision with the Gov't of the U. S., the members of the Mormon church will yield implicit obedience to his will. Unfortunately, existing facts leave but little doubt that such is his determination. Without entering upon a minute history of occurrences, it is sufficient to say that all the officers of the United States, judicial and executive, with the single exception of two Indian agents, have found it necessary for their own personal safety to withdraw from the Territory, and there no longer remains any gov't in Utah but the despotism of Brigham Young. This being the condition of affairs in the Territory, I could not mistake the path of duty. As Chief Executive Magistrate, I was bound to restore the supremacy of the constitution and laws within its limits. In order to effect this purpose, I appointed a new governor and other federal officers for Utah, and sent with them a military force for their protection, and to aid as a *posse comitatus*, in case of need, in the execution of the laws.

With the religious opinions of the Mormons, so long as they remained mere opinions, however deplorable in themselves and revolting to the moral and religious sentiments of all Christendom, I had no right to interfere. Actions alone, when in violation of the constitution and laws of the U. S. become the legitimate subjects for the jurisdiction of the civil magistrate. My instructions to Gov. Cumming have therefore been framed in strict accordance with these principles. At their date a hope was indulged that no necessity might exist for employing the military in restoring and maintaining the authority of the law; but this hope has now vanished. Gov. Young has, by proclamation, declared his determination to maintain his power by force, and has already committed acts of hostility against the U. S. Unless he should retrace his steps the Territory of Utah will be in a state of open rebellion. He has committed these acts of hostility notwithstanding Major Van Vliet, an officer of the army, sent to Utah by the commanding general to purchase provisions for the troops, had given him the strongest assurances of the peace intentions of the gov't, and that the troops would only be employed as a *posse comitatus* when called on by the civil authority to aid in the execution of the laws.

There is reason to believe that Gov. Young has long contemplated this result. He knows that the continuance of his despotic power depends upon the exclusion of all settlers from the Territory, except those who will acknowledge his divine mission and implicitly obey his will; and that an enlightened public opinion there would soon prostrate institutions at war with the laws both of God and man. He has therefore for several years, in order to maintain his independence, been industriously employed in collecting and fabricating arms and munitions of war, and in disciplining the Mormons for military service. As superintendent of Indian affairs he has had an opportunity of tampering with the Indian tribes, and exciting their hostile feelings against the U. S. This, according to our information, he has accomplished in regard to some of these tribes, while others have remained true to their allegiance, and have communicated his intrigues to our Indian agents. He has laid in a store of provisions for three years, which, in case of necessity, he has informed Major Van Vliet, he will conceal, "and then take to the mountains, and bid defiance to all the powers of the government."

A great part of all this may be idle boasting; but yet no wise government will lightly estimate the efforts which may be inspired by such phrensied fanaticism as exists among the Mormons in Utah. This is the first rebellion which has existed in our Territories; and humanity itself requires that we should put it down in such a manner that it shall be the last. To trifle with it would be to encourage it and to render it formidable. We ought to go there with such an imposing force as to convince these deluded people that resistance would be vain, and thus spare the effusion of blood. We can in this manner best convince them that we are their friends, not their enemies. In order to accomplish this object it will be necessary, according to the estimate of the War Department, to raise four additional regiments: and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. At the present moment of depression in the revenues of the country I am sorry to be obliged to recommend such a measure; but I feel confident of the support of Congress, cost what it may, in suppressing the insurrection and in restoring and maintaining the sovereignty of the constitution and laws over the Territory of Utah.

I recommend to Congress the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona, incorporating with it such portions of New Mexico as they may deem expedient. I need scarcely adduce arguments in support of this recommendation. We are bound to protect the lives and the property of our citizens inhabiting Arizona, and these are now without any efficient protection. Their present number is already considerable, and is rapidly increasing, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they labor. Besides, the proposed Territory is believed to be rich in mineral and agricultural resources, especially in silver and copper. The mails of the U. S. to California are now carried over it throughout its whole extent, and this route is known to be the nearest, and believed to be the best to the Pacific.

Long experience has deeply convinced me that a strict construction of the powers granted to Congress is the only true, as well as the only safe, theory of the constitution. Whilst this principle shall guide my public conduct, I consider it clear that under the war-making power Congress may appropriate money for the construction of a military road through the Territories of the United States, when this is absolutely necessary for the defence of any of the States against foreign invasion. The constitution has conferred upon Congress power "to declare war," "to raise and support armies," "to provide and maintain a navy," and to call forth the militia to "repel invasions." These high sovereign powers necessarily involve important and responsible public duties, and among them there is none so sacred and so imperative as that of preserving our soil from the invasion of a foreign enemy. The constitution has, therefore, left nothing on this point to construction,—but expressly requires that "the U. S. shall protect each of them [the States] against invasion." Now, if a military road over our own Territories be indispensably necessary to enable us to meet and repel the invader it follows as a necessary consequence not only that we possess the power, but it is our imperative duty to construct such a road. It would be an absurdity to invest a government with the unlimited power to make and conduct war, and at the same time deny to it the only means of reaching and defeating the enemy at the frontier. Without such a road it is quite evident we cannot "protect" California and our Pacific possessions "against invasion." We cannot by any other means transport men and munitions of war from the Atlantic States in sufficient time successfully to defend these remote and distant portions of the republic.

Experience has proved that the routes across the isthmus of Central America are at best but a very uncertain and unreliable mode of communication. But even if this were not the case, they would at once be closed against us in the event of war with a naval power so much stronger than our own as to enable it to blockade the ports at either end of these routes. After all, therefore, we can only rely upon a military road through our own territories; and ever since the origin of the government Congress has been in the practice of appropriating money from the public treasury for the construction of such roads.

The difficulties and the expense of constructing a military railroad to connect our Atlantic and Pacific States have been greatly exaggerated. The distance on the Arizona route near the 32d parallel of north latitude, between the western boundary of Texas on the Rio Grande and the eastern boundary of California on the Colorado, from the best explorations now within our knowledge, does not exceed four hundred and seventy miles, and the face of the country is, on the main favorable. For obvious reasons the government ought not to undertake the work itself by means of its own agents. This ought to be committed to other agencies, which Congress might assist either by grants of land or money, or by both, upon such terms and conditions as they may deem most beneficial for the country. Provision might thus be made not only for the safe, rapid, and economical transportation of troops and munitions of war, but also of the public mails. The commercial interests of the whole country, both East and West, would be greatly promoted by such a road; and, above all, it would be a powerful additional bond of union. And although advantages of this kind, whether postal, commercial or political, cannot confer constitutional power, yet they may furnish auxiliary arguments in favor of expediting a work which, in my judgment, is clearly embraced within the war-making power.

For these reasons I commend to the friendly consideration of Congress the subject of the Pacific railroad without finally committing myself to any particular route.

The report of the Sec'y of the Treasury will furnish a detailed statement of the condition of the public finances and of the respective branches of the public service devolved upon that department of the gov't. By this report it appears that the amount of revenue received from all sources into the treasury during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1857, was $68,631,513 67, which amount, with the balance of $19,901,325 45, remaining in the treasury at the commencement of the year, made an aggregate for the service of the year, of $88,532,839 12.

The public expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1857, amounted to $70,822,724 85 of which $5,943,896 91 were applied to the redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, leaving in the treasury at the commencement of the present fiscal year, July 1, 1857 $17,710,114 27.

The receipts into the treasury for the first quarter of the present fiscal year, commencing July 1 1857, were $20,929,819 81, and the estimated receipts of the remaining three quarters to June 30, 1858, are $36,750,000, making with the balance before stated an aggregate of $75,389,934 08, for the service of the present fiscal year.

The actual expenditures during the first quarter of the present fiscal year were $23,714,528 37, of which $3,895,232 39 were applied to the redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium. The probable expenditures of the remaining three quarters, to 30th June, 1858, are $51,248,530 04, including interest on the public debt, making an aggregate of $74,963,058 41, leaving an estimated balance in the treasury at the close of the present fiscal year of $426,875 67.

The amount of the public debt at the commencement of the present fiscal year was $29,060,386 90.

The amount redeemed since the 1st July was $3,895,232 29—leaving a balance unredeemed at this time of $25,165,154 51.

The amount of estimated expenditures for the remaining three quarters of the present fiscal year will, in all probability, be increased from the causes set forth in the report of the Secretary. His suggestion, therefore, that authority should be given to supply any temporary deficiency by the issue of a limited amount of treasury notes, is approved, and I accordingly recommend the passage of such a law.

As stated in the report of the Secretary, the tariff of March 3, 1857, has been in operation for so short a period of time, and under circumstances so unfavorable to a just development of its results as a revenue measure, that I should regard it as inexpedient, at least for the present, to undertake its revision.

I transmit herewith the reports made to me by the Secretaries of War and the Navy, of the Interior and of the Postmaster General. They all contain valuable and important information and suggestions which I commend to the favorable consideration of Congress.

I have already recommended the raising of four additional regiments, and the report of the Secretary of War presents strong reasons proving this increase of the army, under existing circumstances, to be indispensable.

I would call the special attention of Congress to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy in favor of the construction of ten small war steamers of light draught. For some years the government has been obliged on many occasions to hire such steamers from individuals to supply its pressing wants. At the present moment we have no armed vessel in the navy which can penetrate the rivers of China. We have but few which can enter any of the harbors south of Norfolk, although many millions of foreign and domestic commerce annually pass in and out of these harbors. Some of our most valuable interests and most vulnerable points are thus left exposed. This class of vessels of light draught, great speed and heavy guns, would be formidable in coast defence. The cost of their construction will not be great, and they will require but a comparatively small expenditure to keep them in commission. In the time of peace they will prove as effective as much larger vessels, and often more useful. One of them should be at every station where we maintain a squadron, and three or four should be constantly employed on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Economy, utility and efficiency combine to recommend them as almost indispensable. Ten of these small vessels would be of incalculable advantage to the naval service, and the whole cost of their construction would not exceed $2,300,000, or $230,000 each.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior is worthy of grave consideration. It treats of the numerous, important, and diversified branches of domestic administration intrusted to him by law. Among these the most prominent are the public lands and our relations with the Indians.

Our system for the disposal of the public lands, originating with the fathers of the republic, has been improved as experience pointed the way, and gradually adapted to the growth and settlement of our western States and Territories. It has worked well in practice. Already thirteen States and seven Territories have been carved out of these lands, and still more than a thousand millions of acres remain unsold. What a boundless prospect this presents to our country of future prosperity and power!

We have heretofore disposed of 363,862,464 acres of the public land.

Whilst the public lands as a source of revenue are of great importance, their importance is far greater as furnishing homes for a hardy and independent race of honest and industrious citizens, who desire to subdue and cultivate the soil. They ought to be administered mainly with a view of promoting this wise and benevolent policy. In appropriating them for any other purpose, we ought to use even greater economy than if they had been converted into money and the proceeds were already in the public treasury. To squander away this richest and noblest inheritance which any people have ever enjoyed upon objects of doubtful constitutionality or expediency, would be to violate one of the most important trusts ever committed to any people. Whilst I do not deny to Congress the power, when acting *bona fide* as a proprietor, to give away any portions of them for the purpose of increasing the value of the remainder, yet, considering the great temptation to abuse this power, we cannot be too cautious in its exercise.

Actual settlers under existing laws are protected against other purchasers at the public sales, in their right of pre-emption, to the extent of a quarter section, or 160 acres of land. The remainder may then be disposed of at public or entered at private sale in unlimited quantities.

Speculation has of late years prevailed to a great extent in the public lands. The consequence has been that large portions of them have become the property of individuals and companies, and thus the price is greatly enhanced to those who desire to purchase for actual settlement. In order to limit the area of speculation as much as possible, the extinction of the Indian title and the extension of the public surveys ought only to keep pace with the tide of emigration.

If Congress should hereafter grant alternate sections to States or companies, as they have done heretofore, I recommend that the intermediate sections retained by the government should be subject to pre-emption by actual settlers.

It ought ever to be our cardinal policy to reserve the public lands as much as may be for actual settlers, and this at moderate prices. We shall thus not only best promote the prosperity of the new States and Territories, and the power of the Union, but shall secure homes for our posterity for many generations.

The extension of our limits has brought within our jurisdiction many additional and populous tribes of Indians, a large proportion of which are wild, untractable, and difficult to control. Predatory and warlike in their disposition and habits, it is impossible altogether to restrain them from committing aggressions on each other, as well as upon our frontier citizens and those emigrating to our distant States and Territories. Hence expensive military expeditions are frequently necessary to overawe and chastise the more lawless and hostile.

The present system of making them valuable presents to influence them to remain at peace has proved ineffectual. It is believed to be the better policy to colonise them in suitable localities, where they can receive the rudiments of education and be gradually induced to adopt habits of industry. So far as the experiment has been tried, it has worked well in practice, and it will doubtless prove to be less expensive than the present system.

The whole number of Indians within our territorial limits is believed to be, from the best data in the Interior Department, about 325,000.

The tribes of Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws and Creeks, settled in the territory set apart for them west of Arkansas, are rapidly advancing in education and in all the arts of civilization and self-gov't; and we may indulge the agreeable anticipation that at no very distant day they will be incorporated into the Union as one of the sovereign States.

It will be seen from the report of the Postmaster General that the Post Office Department still continues to depend on the treasury, as it has been compelled to do for several years past, for an important portion of the means of sustaining and extending its operations. Their rapid growth and expansion are shown by a decennial statement of the number of the post offices, and the length of post roads, commencing with the year 1827. In that year there were 7,000 post offices; in 1837, 11,177; in 1847, 15,146; and in 1857 they number 26,586. In this year, 1,725 post offices have been established and 704 discontinued, leaving a net increase of 1,021. The postmasters of 368 offices are appointed by the President.

The length of post roads in 1827 was 105,336 miles; in 1837, 141,242 miles; in 1847, 153,818 miles; and in the year 1857 there are 242,601 miles of post roads, including 22,530 miles of railroads, on which the mails are transported.

The expenditures of the department for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1857, as adjusted by the Auditor, amounted to $11,507,670. To defray these expenditures there was to the credit of the department on the 1st July, 1856, the sum of $789,599; the gross revenue of the year, including the annual allowances for the transportation of free mail matter, produced $8,053,951; and the remainder was supplied by the appropriation from the treasury of $2,250,000, granted by the act of Congress approved August 18, 1856, and by the appropriation of $666,883 made by act of March 3, 1857, leaving $252,763 to be carried to the credit of the department in the accounts of the current year. I commend to your consideration the report of the department in relation to the establishment of the overland mail route from the Mississippi river to San Francisco, California.

"The late disastrous monetary revulsion may have one good effect should it cause both the gov't and the people to return to the practice of a wise and judicious economy both in public and private expenditures.

An overflowing treasury has led to habits of prodigality and extravagance in our legislation. It has induced Congress to make large appropriations to objects for which they never would have provided had it been necessary to raise the amount of revenue required to meet them by increased taxation or by loans. We are now compelled to pause in our careeer, and to scrutinize our expenditures with the utmost vigilance; and in performing this duty, I pledge my co-operation to the extent of my constitutional competency.

It ought to be observed at the same time that true public economy does not consist in withholding the means necessary to accomplish important national objects intrusted to us by the constitution, and especially such as may be necessary for the common defence. In the present crisis of the country it is our duty to confine our appropriations to objects of this character, unless in cases where justice to individuals may demand a different course. In all cases care ought to be taken that the money granted by Congress shall be faithfully and economically applied.

Under the federal constitution, "every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate shall, before it becomes a law," be approved and signed by the President; and if not approved, "he shall return it with his objections to that house in which it originated." In order to perform this high and responsible duty, sufficient time must be allowed the President to read and examine every bill presented to him for approval. Unless this be afforded, the constitution becomes a dead letter in this particular; and even worse, it becomes a means of deception. Our constituents, seeing the President's approval and signature attached to each act of Congress, are induced to believe that he has actually performed this duty, when, in truth, nothing is, in many cases, more unfounded.

From the practice of Congress, such an examination of each bill as the constitution requires, has been rendered impossible. The most important business of each session is generally crowded into its last hours, and the alternative presented to the President is either to violate the constitutional duty which he owes to the people, and approve bills which, for want of time, it is impossible he should have examined, or, by his refusal to do this, subject the country and individuals to great loss and inconvenience.

Besides, a practice has grown up of late years to legislate in appropriation bills, at the last hours of the session, on new and important subjects. This practice constrains the President either to suffer measures to become laws which he does not approve, or to incur the risk of stopping the wheels of the government by vetoing an appropriation bill. Formerly, such bills were confined to specific appropriations for carrying into effect existing laws and the well established policy of the country, and little time was then required by the President for their examination.

For my own part, I have deliberately determined that I shall approve no bill which I have not examined, and it will be a case of extreme and most urgent necessity which shall ever induce me to depart from this rule. I therefore respectfully, but earnestly, recommend that the two houses would allow the President at least two days previous to the adjournment of each session within which no new bill shall be presented to him for approval. Under the existing joint rule one day is allowed; but this rule has been hitherto so constantly suspended in practice, that important bills continue to be presented to him up till the very last moments of the session. In a large majority of cases no great public inconvenience can arise from the want of time to examine their provisions, because the constitution has declared that if a bill be presented to the President within the last ten days of the session he is not required to return it, either with an approval or with a veto, "in which case it shall not be a law." It may then lie over, and be taken up and passed at the next session. Great inconvenience would only be experienced in regard to appropriation bills; but fortunately, under the late excellent law allowing a salary, instead of a per diem, to members of Congress, the expense and inconvenience of a called session will be greatly reduced.

I cannot conclude without commending to your favorable consideration the interest of the people of this District. Without a representative on the floor of Congress, they have for this very reason peculiar claims upon our just regard. To this I know, from my long acquaintance with them, they are eminently entitled.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8, 1857.

VALUABLE LAND FOR SALE.

BY virtue of a Decree of the Court of Equity, at Fall Term, 1857, upon the petition of Frances Evans and others, I will sell, at the Market House in Fayetteville, on Saturday the 2d day of January next,

550 ACRES OF LAND,

lying on the East side of the Cape Fear, three miles above Rockfish, adjoining the lands of Jonathan Evans, John McDaniel, W. B. Fields, and Henry Carter, deceased, known as the *Blocker Land*, about 100 acres of which is cleared. The said land is heavily timbered, and very valuable for farming purposes.

Terms of sale, six and twelve months, with interest from date: Bond and security required from the purchaser. W. A. HUSKE, Clerk and Master.

Dec'r 1. 65-T*ts

BELMONT SELECT SCHOOL,

Granville County, N. C.

10 MILES SOUTH OF CLARKSVILLE, VIRGINIA.

R. H. GRAVES, Principal.

THE Principal, after teaching for twenty years having determined to establish a permanent Select School in the country, selected the above location out of many which he had carefully examined, as being preeminently suitable for the purpose designed: reference being had especially to health, and the advantages of social, moral and religious influence. To attain these ends, though at the expense of improving a new place, the site was procured in the midst of a community noted for intelligence, refinement and moral worth, remote from stores, tippling shops, and other places of temptation to extravagance and vice.

The School has been two years in successful operation, and the character of the location above given is freely awarded to it by all acquainted therewith.

Board can be had in families of the highest respectability.

As the number of classes will be limited, it is important that applicants state the progress already made.

TERMS.—For Board and Tuition per Session of 20 weeks, $85, payable in advance.

The next Session will commence 14th January 1858. Address the Principal at Brownsville P. O., Granville Co., N. C.

Dec'r 4. 66*6t

New Goods Again!

THE undersigned has now in Store a COMPLETE STOCK OF

GROCERIES

AND

HEAVY HARDWARE;

—ALSO—

Negro Kerseys, Blankets, Hats and Brogans.

All or any of which will be sold low. Those in want call soon. G. W. I GOLDSTON.

N. B.—A few Bushels Seed Wheat.

Oct'r 19, 1857. 52-*tf

BLANKS for sale at this Office.

STANLY HOTEL.

THE Subscribers having lately purchased the above mentioned **HOUSE,** respectfully solicts public patronage. We will spare no pains to render all comfortable who may favor us with a call. Our Table shall be furnished with the best the Market affords.

Our STALLS are in good repair, well supplied, and attentive Ostlers in attendance.

We also have a Large Stock of Goods on hand, consisting of a general variety, which we offer low for cash or on time to punctual dealers.

STEED, HARRIS & ROSS.

Albemarle, N. C., Oct. 28, 1857. 56-*6mpd

North Carolina,—RANDOLPH COUNTY.

Clerk and Master's Office, Dec. 4. 1857.

WHEREAS the Executors of Eli Bray and others have filed in this Office their Bill of Complaint against Benj'n Marley and wife Ruth, Samuel Bray, John D. Brown and wife Jane, and others, praying for a construction of the testator's will and an account or settlement of his Estate: and it is made to appear to me by affidavit that the said Marley and wife, Samuel Bray, and Brown and wife, are not inhabitants of this State. Therefore, the said Marley and wife, Samuel Bray, and Brown and wife are hereby notified to appear at the next Court of Equity to be held for the County of Randolph, at the Court House in Asheborough, on the 4th Monday of March next, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said Bill, otherwise the bill will be taken as confessed, and the Court will make such Decree therein as may be deemed just.

Witness, J. Worth, Clerk and Master of Randolph Court of Equity, at office in Asheborough.

JONATHAN WORTH, C. M. E.

Dec. 7. 66-3t

AMBROTYPES! AMBROTYPES!!

HAVING taken the Rooms formerly occupied by M. M. Ferguson, over J. M. Beasley's, would respectfully announce to the public that he is prepared to take AMBROTYPES in the best styles known to the art. A trial is all he asks, and if satisfaction is not given, there is no charge.

"So come along without delay,"
And get a picture from Battley.

W. T. BATTLEY

Nov. 5, 1857. 57*tf

SALE OF SLAVES.

BY an order of the Court of Equity of Robeson County, rendered at Fall Term, 1857, upon the petition of Winnifred Blount, and others, minor children of William Blount, deceased, by their Guardian, Joseph Thompson, I will on FRIDAY, the 1st DAY OF JANUARY, 1858, before the door of the Court House in Lumberton, offer for sale

37 SLAVES,

consisting of Men, Women and Children. Among them are valuable Mechanics, Ditchers, and Field Hands.

Terms of sale, 12 months credit, the purchasers giving bond with satisfactory security.

R. S. FRENCH, C. M. E.

Nov'r 30, 1857. 66*4w

DRY GOODS

AT FLORAL COLLEGE.

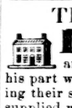
THE Subscriber expects to receive his Fall and Winter Goods in a few days; his stock this season will be found unusually attractive, comprised in part of a large assortment of

Staple Goods; Ladies' Dress Goods; Ready-made Clothing; Boots; Shoes; Hats, Caps; Bonnets; Cloaks; Talmas, &c.

In fact, everything usually found in a Dry Goods Store, all of which will be sold to suit the times to cash and prompt paying customers. At No. 1, Floral Avenue, is the place to find cheap, good and handsome Goods. Bear this in mind. EDMUND LILLY.

Sept. 4, 1857. 40-*tf

THE WARSAW HOUSE



IS NOW OPEN, and the subscriber solicits the patronage of the travelling community and the public in general. Every exertion on his part will be used to render them comfortable during their sojourn with him. His table will be always supplied with the best the market affords.

His bar will be furnished with the best Liquors that can be bought.

He has spacious Stables, and careful Ostlers in attendance at all times.

Passengers going North can buy through tickets to Weldon, from the Agent at the Fayetteville Hotel, returning can buy tickets at the W. & W. R. R. Office at Weldon.

Passengers stopping at the Warsaw House can have their baggage carried to and from the Rail Road. The Stage arrives at Warsaw at 1½ o'clock, A. M., and leaves for Fayetteville on the arrival of the cars at 7½ P. M.

I have also a Daily Stage line running to Kenansville, packages and small boxes will be forwarded to any point on the line.

N. FREDERICK, Proprietor.

STAGE AGENTS.—J. H. Roberts, Fayetteville; G. W. Atkins, Clinton; J. B. Southerland, Warsaw; John Campbell, Weldon; Isaac B. Kelly, Kenansville.

Nov. 6, 1857. 63-*6m

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

ANSON COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1857.

John Broadaway, Adm'r of Nathan A. Morris vs. James W. Morris and others.

Petition for sale of Land.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that James W. Morris, Jackson J. Morris, Thomas J. Morris, and John P. Griffin and wife Ann, the defendants, are not inhabitants of this State, on motion it is ordered, that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer for six weeks successively, notifying the defendants to appear at the next Term of the Court, to be held for the County of Anson at the Court House in Wadesboro', on the second Monday in January next; then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, or judgment pro confesso will be entered against them, and the petition heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, Patrick J. Coppedge, Clerk of said Court, at office in Wadesborough, the second Monday of October, 1857. P. J. COPPEDGE, Clerk.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

BLADEN COUNTY.

F. B. Andrews vs. Morgan C. Turrentine.

Original Attachment.—D. F. Flowers summoned as Garnishee.

THE answer of the Garnishee in this case having been filed, and conditional judgment having been rendered against the defendant, M. C. Turrentine, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said defendant resides beyond the limits of this State, It is ordered by the Court that publication be made for six weeks in the Fayetteville Observer, for the said defendant, Morgan C. Turrentine, to appear at the next term of this Court, to be held for the County of Bladen at the Court House in Elizabethtown, on the first Monday in February, 1858, then and there to replevy and plead or demur, or the said judgment will be made absolute.

Witness, F. F. Cumming, Clerk of said Court, at office in Elizabethtown, the 11th day of November, A. D. 1857. F. F. CUMMING, Clerk.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Court of Equity, Fall Term 1857.

Benjamin Smith vs. Jonathan Worth, Adm'r of William B. Ham, and Giles Ham and others.

IN this case it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the defendants, Williams Ham and Zaconiah Ham, are non-residents of this State, it is therefore ordered by the Court, that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer, a newspaper published in the Town of Fayetteville, for six weeks, notifying said Defendants to be and appear at the next Court of Equity, to be held for the County of Cumberland, then and there to plead, answer or demur to Complainant's bill, or judgment pro confesso will be entered and the cause heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, Walter A. Huske, Clerk and Master of our said Court, the 7th Monday after the 4th Monday in September 1857.

64*6t] W. A. HUSKE, C. M. E.

LOST!

A NOTE of One Hundred Dollars, payable to David Sikes or order, and signed by D. F. Gillespie and James F. Gillespie, and bears date April 13th, 1857. All persons are forbidden to trade for said Note, and the makers from paying the same except to myself. DAVID SIKES